



BELLEVILLE - AREA INDEPENDENT

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Serving the Communities of Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren

FREE

25 gather to discuss proposed public safety assessment in city

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

About 25 people, mostly fire fighters and their supporters, attended Monday's special meeting of the Belleville City Council at Belleville High School to discuss the proposed 2-mill assessment for public safety.

The question is on the Nov. 5 ballot, but the result of the election is not a mandate. It's an advisory vote.

"We wanted to have this meeting," said Mayor Kerreen Conley at the end of the 58-minute informational session, after the council was criticized for not just making the decision on its own to levy the 2 mills two months ago.

"We didn't need to have this meeting," she continued. "We'll see what happens on election day and go from there. This is not meant to be a shell game."

"The second week in November it will be on the city council agenda," said Councilman Tom Fielder. That is when the council could vote to levy the assessment for this winter's tax bill.

The council said the city is not getting in enough tax money to provide public safety services, especially buying police cars and fire engines.

At the beginning of the meeting, Mayor Conley said the money for public safety is needed for ten years because expensive equipment will take more than one year to pay off.

She said the council will have to vote to levy the 2 mills each year for 10 years. The 2 mills are expected to bring in \$90,000 per year for public safety operating needs.

Councilman Jesse Marcotte read aloud the ballot language on the city's Nov. 5 ballot. It was noted the sample ballot is on the city's website for study.

"What happens if it's voted down?" asked Tony Talaga.

"Would we shove it down the taxpayers'

throats?" asked Mayor Conley. "That's not a good idea. We can vote it in or wait and look at whether it's the 10 years that caused it to fail or what else."

She insisted the tax revenue doesn't cover the public safety services that they need to provide. She said it's important for the council to have the support of the voters. One of the council members, Tom Smith, is not running again and the city will have a new council after the election.

She said maybe it wasn't clear that specific equipment is needed for public safety, such as police vehicles and the police interview room. The fire truck is on the list of capital needs, too. The main things have been identified, she said.

Talaga asked when the one year at a time would end, in 2029?

Mayor Conley replied it could be longer.

Michael Renaud asked if the Downtown Development Authority would not be withholding funds from this assessment.

"The revenue from this special assessment would not go to the DDA," Conley replied.

Anna Loranger said since the special assessment is only good for one year, do they have to do it every year?

"The council has to vote every year," Conley replied. "Even if the board changes they will know the people approved it for 10 years."

Conley said the council decided in July to go for a special assessment.

Mayor Pro Tem Jack Loria said one-third of the city's tax base is untaxable because of the schools, churches, and the library.

"Our tax base pays for police and fire," Loria said. "We want to see if you're willing to pay for the services."

Fire Chief Brian Loranger said they have a need for two fire trucks. The 1989 Ford truck has stick shift and many of his fire fighters can't drive it. The main truck is from 1998 and is 21 years old. He said they

(continued on page 9)



Independent photo by James Otzman

A Community Cupboard has been placed in front of Clement Insurance at 354 Main St., Belleville, to serve members of the Belleville, Sumpter, and Van Buren community. The cupboard is filled with nonperishable food items that people can take without charge when needed. Sandy Hightower, insurance agent at Clement Insurance, said the cupboard is a "Neighbors Helping Neighbors" project and people are advised to "Take what you need and leave what you can." Hightower said she is stocking the pantry in the beginning, but she hopes members of the community will bring food in the future. She said Community Cupboards are located in towns throughout the world. For more information, call (734) 699-1300.

VBT Board approves 2020 general fund budget on 5-1 vote

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

The Van Buren Township Board of Trustees approved the 2019 amended general fund budget, the 2020 general fund budget and the 2020 salary wage scale on a 5-1 vote at the Oct. 15 regular meeting of the board of trustees.

Trustee Paul White voted no and Treasurer Sharry Budd was absent.

The board unanimously approved the 2019 amended and 2020 proposed special revenues budgets that include the Downtown Development Authority, Local Development Finance Authority, Federal Forfeiture Fund, State Forfeiture Fund, E-911 Service Fund, Landfill Fund, Belleville Area Museum, Long Term Debt Fund, and Capital Improvement Fund.

The board also approved unanimously the 2019 Amended and 2020 Proposed Water and Sewer budget, noting that water/sewer

rates will rise 5% as of Jan. 1, which would amount to about an \$8 or \$9 quarterly rate increase per average customer.

Trustee White said he voted against the general fund budget because of the inappropriate raises this year, there is too much money in the budget with a possible economic downturn coming in the future, and the Visteon bond debacle.

White said public safety comes first and everything after that is fluff. He said they get a couple million dollars from the landfill each year. And, they are picking and choosing who to give money to.

"I'm not pleased with the budget," White concluded.

"We heard why he gave the raises," said Clerk Leon Wright, referring to Supervisor Kevin McNamara's statement at the work/study session. "I think it's a good budget."

Trustee Reggie Miller, who praised

(continued on page 19)

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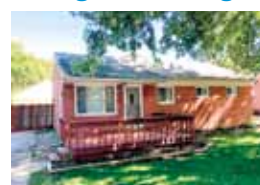
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SECOND FRONT PAGE

No books planned for Sumpter Township's new branch library

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

"Books on demand" is what will be offered at the Belleville Area District Library's new branch in Sumpter Township when it opens in November.

At the Oct. 8 regular meeting of the district library board, the *Independent* reported comments just made at the Sumpter Township Board of Trustees meeting that had adjourned a few minutes earlier.

The *Independent* reported Sumpter resident Mary Ban said someone told her there would be no books at the branch library. She said she asked about it and Sumpter Deputy Supervisor Karen Armatis confirmed there would be no books.

Deputy Armatis said that's what she said to Ban and the branch was to be a "media center."

The library board confirmed the renovated facility in Sumpter was to be a media center with computers and printers and other technology, but no books. Books could be ordered and they would be brought from the main library in Belleville.

Then, they could be dropped off at the media center and they would be returned to Belleville.

Library board chairwoman Sharon Peters said the Friends of the Library could bring some of the donated books they are selling to display and sell.

In a related matter, Library Director Mary Jo Suchy reported the plumbing, electrical, and wall demolitions had been completed and the site concrete had been poured at the branch site, across Sumpter Road from the township hall.

The hexagon building was most recently the site of the DPW department, which moved to another building next door. Reportedly, it was first built to house the senior citizens group, but was quickly found to be too small.

Suchy said the floor tile was removed and channels were dug into the floor for the electrical power that will run the computer workstations. She said the computer tables are on order and electrical work is ongoing. Also, painting has been done inside.

Suchy said fiber optics are on the way and the drive-up, stand-alone book return is enroute.

Installation of the metal roof is scheduled for the last week of October. Suchy said it had to be ordered and it will have a mock sun roof.

Peters said they will have to check with Sumpter on its plans for a ribbon-cutting, which probably will be around Thanksgiving in late November. She expects they will have a soft opening first.

Peters said representatives of the library have been meeting with Sumpter every Thursday concerning the branch.

The planned hours for the branch are 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays; 3 to 8 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays; and 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturdays. Staff will be on hand during those hours.

Meanwhile, progress continues on the new, two-story library next to the old library in downtown Belleville, with the installation of the curtain wall of windows in the tower and the installation of the elevator, along with other

work.

The previous Saturday, 50 people signed up and 40 people came, most with shovels, to dig up the perennials around the old library to transfer to their home gardens as mementos.

Building committee chairwoman Joy Cichewicz said March 1 is the date set to tear down the old library. Suchy said tables and end shelving will be done by LDA and HLF of Van Buren Township, with the warden tables being built on site in the new library.

Suchy said because of the savings in this area, they will be able to put outlets in all of the tables.

Peters said representatives of Van Buren Township and the Belleville Downtown Development Authority have been invited to a 10 a.m., Oct. 24, meeting of the building committee to encourage cooperation. The meeting is open to the public.

Peters said the location of the library and museum is considered a community cultural hub. She reminded the board that the library board is elected by all three communities -- Belleville, Van Buren, and Sumpter -- and so serves all three communities.

Peters said at the joint meeting they'll discuss the former old fire station doors that are next to the new front door of the library. A hard-hat tour of the new building will follow the meeting, she said.

Since the old library is slated to be torn down March 1, a farewell party is being planned for Feb. 21 with a Mardi Gras theme. Marketing committee chairwoman Alma Hughes-Grubbs said the brass band for the event has been booked.

Monster Mutt Walk winners

Cutest:

- 1st – Diane Stahl with Lucy (Ocherese)
- 2nd – Savannah Zabik with Kloe (Jack Russell)
- 3rd – Kevin Maus (wife Caroline) with Pete (Schnauzer)

Scariest:

- 1st - Aubrey Hire with Kingley (French bulldog)
- 2nd – Andrea Casey with Perry (Golden Retriever)
- 3rd – Heidi Orr with Joker (Victorian bulldog)

Best Mutt & Family:

- 1st – Allison & Kevin Robertson – Trixxie (Husky/Doberman) and Avalanche (Husky/Samoyed/GSD)
- 2nd – Robin Burtch (son Bradley & daughter Juliet) and Mink (Beagle)
- 3rd – Chris Morton and Simba (Pomeranian)

Judges were Strawberry Queen Katie Russell, Bob Stoner and Jessica Panko. The event was held Saturday, Oct. 19.

Photos courtesy of Jessica Panko

Monster Mutt Walk winners



Cutest



Scariest



Best Mutt & Family

OPINIONS

Editorial

Does Belleville need any prayers?

On Monday, Raynard and Toni Anderson stood before the Belleville City Council and generously offered their prayers for the city for whatever is needed. The Andersons work at protecting the young people in our community as security guards in the schools and have for three years.

They already know the heartache some students suffer and about the faltering families. Raynard said they have worked for years as chaplains with the Detroit Police Department and have been written about by columnist Mitch Albom for their positive work for that city.

Raynard said they are being drawn to Belleville and want to move here.

Their heartfelt offer to pray for the city was awkwardly turned aside into whether the city needed a chaplain for the police and fire department. Fire Chief Loranger said they already have access to chaplains when needed.

About the prayers? No comment. Nobody on the council went there. Anyone looking below the surface knows every community needs prayers and would benefit from uplifting energies.

In the Belleville we know, there is an elderly family losing its home, a young man jailed for making violent threats on his computer, severe health problems for businessmen and city leaders. The list goes on.

Could the city use some prayers? Certainly. Is it that hard to say? Would, "Please, pray for us" show weakness? No. We could all use some prayers.

EXTRA THINGS I KNOW

Belleville City Councilman Jesse Marcotte's wife Melly gave birth to their son on Oct. 13 at University of Michigan Mott Hospital. Aidan Xavier Marcotte weighed six pounds, 13 ounces. Councilman Marcotte said it was kind of fun for his wife to be in Room 911. He is a firefighter. Mother and son are doing well and Melly wanted to come to Monday's city council meetings, but Jesse thought they might go too long.

I recently was given a hard-hat tour of the new court building now under construction in Romulus. Al Hindman showed me the ins and outs of the building, starting with the indoor parking for the judges. Now, that I think about it that's a very good safety measure considering how often defendants are angry with the judges.

There are lots of other security details in the building, which is gorgeous. There are four courtrooms – for the three judges and the magistrate – with one courtroom larger in case we run into another big case like we did when all the Romulus officials were defendants and the court had to borrow VBT Hall for preliminary exams.

We received a call Thursday advising us that the beautiful carved depiction of the Last Supper donated to St. Anthony Catholic Church in Belleville by the late Dr. Evangelina Esquejo-Capili, no longer hangs in the place where the community gathers for meals.

Our reader said Father John moved the carved Last Supper into the church where people can see it at services.

Another reader called to say she had a scam call last week, allegedly from Social

...By Rosemary K. Otzman



Security, that advised her that her Social Security Number was used at the Texas border. She hung up.

In last week's column I reported on what was said in the Oct. 14 work/study session about big raises for people who hadn't been working at Van Buren Township for very long. I reported that Trustee Paul White pointed to a \$4,000 raise for Human Resources Director Nicole Sumpter, that was actually \$2,997.

White said he didn't say that Sumpter got a \$4,000 raise. That's what the assessor got for getting the top designation in the state for assessing and she's been with the township as long as I've been covering the township, some 25 years. Now Linda Stevenson could go anywhere she wants in the state and get a much higher salary than what she's getting here.

The HR Director went from \$69,003 to \$72,000, but if that includes a 2% raise, I'm not sure. Then, Deputy DDA Director got a raise from \$54,083 to \$56,787, which may include the 2% raise. It's hard to figure out.

All this is to say Trustee White said he didn't say Sumpter got \$4,000 raise at the regular meeting because he watched the recording of the meeting to double check. That's right, but my notes were from the previous day's work/study session when the issue was discussed.

At the work/study session Trustee White said such raises cause angst for people who didn't get big raises, but do their work

every day in a great manner. He said he was referring to the \$15,000 raise and the \$4,000 raise for people who haven't been here long.

I was sure he was referring to Matt Best and Nicole Sumpter because they got big raises and they haven't been here that long. (Best got his big raise last year.) That may have been where things got mixed up. I apologize. These side raises are very confusing for me, with or without 2% salary increases for everyone else.

At the regular meeting of the VBT board on Oct. 15, Supervisor Kevin McNamara announced that for the first time the township meeting was being broadcast live on YouTube.

Also at the work/study session of the township board Clerk Leon Wright said his brother who has Down's Syndrome is living "day-to-day right now" and Wright may have to go to Mississippi. Last weekend, Wright noted on Facebook that his brother died on Friday and he was going to Mississippi for the funeral.

The railroad tracks over Haggerty Road, just north of East Huron River Drive, are now smooth to drive over. Haggerty was closed at that point for five days and finally was reopened Saturday morning.



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**152 Main St., Suite 9,
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Office Manager: Janet Millard

Business Manager: Gerald McKelvey

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"Education is what remains after one has forgotten what one has learned in school."
— Albert Einstein

Letters

Writer criticizes Republicans only

To the editor:

In the Oct. 17 edition of this newspaper, Barbara Zysk-Berman writes "I don't hate the Republican Party, but I do dislike what's being done to it." But she doesn't say the same thing about the Democratic Party?

Are you kidding me? Unbelievable!

D. A. Williams
Dearborn Heights

Thank you so much for being a proud American

To the editor:

I just wanted to thank the person that wrote the long and impressive letter about the rule of law in America. I'm sure she meant to include former presidents, secretaries of state, and high-ranking officials, such as vice presidents and their families. Thank you so much for being a proud American.

Mickey Widener
Van Buren Township

Thanks to Moose Lodge for fund raiser for Paul

To the editor:

A shout out to Moose Lodge of Belleville, especially Jim and Amanda. Would like to thank you for all your help and kindness for our fund raiser for a neighbor, Paul. You are all amazing people.

Thank you,
Iris Leahy and Neighbors on Willis Road

Thanks to McNamara, board for SMART bus

To the editor:

I had a chance to ride on our new SMART bus and it was great. Comfortable seating, no worry about duck tape and bungee cords! Many thanks to Supervisor Kevin McNamara and Trustees for giving us seniors a worry-free mode of transportation. Thumbs up for a job well done.

Everyone, enjoy the autumn and the coming holidays. Be safe, drive carefully and look out for people who may not watch where they are going.

Marian Caldwell
Ypsilanti/Belleville

"You can observe a lot just by watching."
— Yogi Berra

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Spaghetti dinner at Moose free for military, to benefit Fisher Houses

The Belleville Moose Lodge #934 will present a spaghetti dinner from 4:30 to 8:30 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 9, to benefit Fisher House Michigan.

Adult tickets are \$10 each and children are \$5 each. Active-duty military and veterans eat free. There will be an auction of a red, white, and blue quilt and a 50/50 raffle

All proceeds benefit Fisher House Michigan. Fisher House Foundation builds comfort homes where military and veterans families can stay free of charge while a loved one is in the hospital.

Eighty-four of those homes are located at military and VA medical centers around the world, however, there are currently none in Michigan.

Eighteen months after a Fisher House was approved for the VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System, a second house for Michigan was approved for the Detroit VA medical center.

In order to support both the Ann Arbor and Detroit houses, Fisher House Michigan has set a goal of raising \$20 million to pay for total construction costs and also support the Fisher House Manager, who will be assigned by the VA to each facility, with amenities for the veterans' families.

The Ann Arbor house will be complete in 2020 with the house at the John D. Dingell VA Medical Center in Detroit to follow in time. Fisher Houses are not financed by the VA, but by private citizens and corporate donors.

Upcoming Meetings

• Monday, Oct. 28 – Belleville Parks and Recreation Commission, 4 p.m. Also, Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education, 7 p.m., BHS Commons

• Monday, Nov. 4 – Belleville City Council, 7:30 p.m.

• Monday, Nov. 11 – Van Buren Public Schools Board of Education, 7 p.m., BHS Commons

• Tuesday, Nov. 12 – September Days Senior Center Endowment Committee, 11 a.m. Also, Sumpter Township workshop at 6 p.m. and regular meeting at 6:30 p.m. Also, VBT Board of Zoning Appeals, 7 p.m. Also, Belleville Area District Library Board, 7:30 p.m.

• Wednesday, Nov. 13 – Van Buren Township Local Development Financing Authority meets at 2 p.m. Also, Van Buren Township Planning Commission, 7:30 p.m.

• Thursday, Nov. 14 – Keystone Academy board meeting at 6 p.m. Also, Sumpter Township Planning Commission, 7 p.m., if needed. Also, Belleville Planning Commission, 7 p.m.

• Monday, Nov. 18 – Van Buren Township work/study meeting, 4 p.m. Also, Belleville City Council, 7:30 p.m.

• Tuesday, Nov. 19 – Van Buren Township regular meeting, 6 p.m.

• Wednesday, Nov. 20 – Belleville Downtown Development Authority, 6 p.m.

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West Branch Builders of Belleville has been serving the tri-community for over 38 years with residential and commercial building and remodeling. Owner Tim Bowman is licensed and insured. Call (734) 476-1098.

The Yankee Air Museum at Willow Run Airport is commemorating Veteran's Day on Monday, Nov. 11, with free admission to veterans and their families. The museum, which is normally closed on Mondays, will welcome vets during this special occasion. Call (734) 483-4030.

Dr. Yvonne Craiger is back practicing in the area and would like to let all her past patients know that she is offering her full-time veterinary services at Willowood Acres in Romulus at 29490 Sibley Rd. Formerly the owner of Sumpter Pet Care, Dr. Y is scheduling clients at (734) 753-4424. Clinic hours are Monday through Friday, from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturdays. See her ad in today's paper and watch for details of an upcoming open house.

This Saturday, Oct. 26 is National Prescription Take-Back Day and the Van Buren Township Police and the Drug Enforcement Administration have teamed up to offer a safe, convenient, and responsible way to dispose of prescription drugs that may be unused, expired, or unwanted. Bring them in to the public safety department between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. The service is free. They won't accept liquids, glass bottles, needles, etc. Call (734) 699-8930.

The deadline to enter the Belleville Area Council for the Arts' 10th-annual Community Art Show is tomorrow, Oct. 25. The show takes place Nov. 1-3 at the BYC. Applications are available at the Belleville Area District Library, Van Buren Township Hall, Garden Fantasy Main Street, and the Independent office at 152 Main Street. Forms can also be found on BACA's Facebook page. Cash prizes will be awarded.

Classic Rock station WCSX (94.7) is coming to Garden Fantasy Florist on Main Street tomorrow, Oct. 25, from noon to 1 p.m. with a one-hour simulcast program to promote the business as well as the city. Look for signage in the area and an appearance of the WCXS van. A free drawing will be held for a chance to win a new HD radio boombox, and, of course, remember to tune in to the radio broadcast beginning at noon. Cool.

Express Tire and Automotive Repair on Belleville Road is offering a free winter

maintenance inspection with an appointment only by calling (734) 697-2424. See their ad in today's paper for an oil change special for \$29.95, and a coupon for 10% off parts and labor for all services (up to \$40 off). Ask about their 50% off nationwide road hazard program on tires, too.

This Sunday, Oct. 27, is the final Turkey Shoot of the season, sponsored by Sumpter Parks & Recreation, at the police firing range/old landfill on West Willow Road.

For info, Call Don Swinson at (734) 674-4980.

Congratulations to the Belleville Tigers football team as it defeated Livonia Franklin 39-29 on Oct. 18. The 8-0 Tigers advance to tomorrow's Kensington Lakes Athletic Association's Championship title game at Plymouth. The high school football playoff season gets under way on Oct. 27 with MHSAA's playoff selection show live on Fox Sports Detroit at 7 p.m. Go, Tigers!

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Obituaries



Sharon Lee Dubisky

SHARON LEE DUBISKY

(July 11, 1939 – October 12, 2019)

Sharon Lee Dubisky, age 80 years of Onsted, formerly of Belleville, passed away on Saturday, October 12, 2019, at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ann Arbor. She was born on July 11, 1939, in Wayne, the daughter of Lloyd N. and Mary E. (Lee) Merillat.

Sharon graduated from Belleville High School in 1957. She married Edward G. Dubisky on September 3, 1960 in Belleville. He survives. Sharon was a loving wife, a great mother and wonderful grandmother who enjoyed her family and all their activities. She is going to be dearly missed by all who knew her, especially her family.

Surviving Sharon besides her husband Edward are their three sons, Lloyd Dubisky of Ann Arbor, David (Terry) Dubisky and Dan Dubisky all of Belleville; five grandchildren, Thomas Dubisky, Emily Dubisky, Brandon Dillon, Britney (James) Potter and Rai (Stephanie) Maggard; four great-grandchildren, Chyanne, Evelyn, Harlow, and Finley; one sister, Judy (Bob) Mann of Arizona; and several nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents.

Cremation has taken place. A Mass of the Resurrection will be held 11:00 A.M. on Friday, October 25, 2019 at St. Rita Catholic Church, 10516 Hayes Rd., Clarklake, MI 49234 with Father Tom Helfrich officiating. Family and friends can gather at the church from 10-10:45 a.m. prior to the service. Private interment will take place at a later date at Somerset Center Cemetery. Arrangements are entrusted to Dunn Chapel, Brown-Van Hemert Funeral Home in Onsted. Condolences and words of comfort can be left at www.brownvanhemert.com.



Kenneth B. Kozlowski, Jr.

KENNETH B. KOZLOWSKI, JR.

(December 25, 1965 – October 17, 2019)

Mr. Kenneth B. Kozlowski, Jr. passed away on October 17, 2019 at his home. He was born on December 25, 1965 in Trenton, Michigan, a son of Kenneth and Kay Kozlowski. He was a good son and an awesome brother. Kenneth is survived by his father Kenneth Sr. and his brother Robin. He was preceded in death by his mother Kay. Cremation Rites have been accorded. Arrangements have been entrusted to Higgerson & Neal Funeral Home, 209 Main St., Belleville, MI 734-697-9400.

www.hnfhhome.com



Freda "Pokie"
Ballard Jager

FREDA 'POKIE' BALLARD JAGER

(July 6, 1950 – October 16, 2019)

Freda "Pokie" Ballard Jager passed away on October 16, 2019. She was born July 6, 1950 in Hamtramck to Fred & Myrtle Ballard. We lost our beloved sister, mother, and friend. Retired from G.M. (Powertrain).

Survived by sisters Pat Porter (Bill) and Sheila Warner (Scott); daughters Gela Kopsolias and Hope Bryan (Matt); grandchildren Devon Turner, Elizabeth Baskin and Stephen Eaglen; and one great-grandchild Delilah.

She will be missed dearly. The family would like to thank all of the special friends who loved and cared for her. A Memorial will be held November 9, 2019 at 4 p.m. at Walter's Bar, 37452 W. Huron River Dr., Romulus.



Karen Ann Fowler

KAREN ANN FOWLER

(May 23, 1969 – October 15, 2019)

Karen Ann Fowler, age 50, of Van Buren Township, MI, passed away Tuesday, October 15, 2019 at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital, Ann Arbor, MI. She was born May 23, 1969 in Wayne, MI, daughter of Steve & JoAnn Kotlarczyk.

Karen graduated from Belleville High School, class of 1987, where she is honored in their Athletic Hall of Fame. She graduated from Eastern Michigan University with a Bachelor's degree. She worked for the VA Hospital as an Occupational Therapist. She was a member of Calvary Bible Church, Ypsilanti. She enjoyed sewing, cross stitch, shopping, and most of all, time spent with family.

She is survived by her devoted husband of 30 years David Fowler, three children Devin (Katelyn) Fowler of Livonia, MI, Morgan Fowler and Megan Fowler, her mother Jo Ann Kotlarczyk, father Steve Kotlarczyk, father and mother-in-law Bob & Janice Fowler, sister-in-law Betty Fowler, all of Belleville, MI; three brothers Stephen (Belva) Kotlarczyk of Japan, Michael (Ruth) Kotlarczyk of St. Louis, Missouri and Mark (Wendy) Kotlarczyk of Grand Rapids, MI; also numerous extended family and friends.

Visitation was 2-8 PM Friday with an 11:00 AM Funeral Saturday, October 19, 2019 at David C. Brown Funeral Home, Belleville, MI. Pastor Brian Jones officiated. Interment followed in Soop Cemetery, Van Buren Township, MI.

Memorial contributions may be made to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, Samaritan's Purse, or Smile Train, and would be appreciated by the family.

www.davidecbrownfh.com

HENRIETTA WATT

(February 3, 1940 – October 17, 2019)

Age 79, of Las Vegas, Nev., and formerly of Sumpter Township. Anatomical donation arranged with University of Michigan Medical School. No services planned at this time. In lieu of flowers, memorial to the family to help defray expenses would be appreciated. David C. Brown Funeral Home, Belleville.

www.davidecbrownfh.com



Jacqueline Dee Reuben

JACQUELINE DEE REUBEN

(August 20, 1937 – October 18, 2019)

Jacqueline Dee Reuben (nee: Hornkohl) of Belleville, MI passed away October 18, 2019 at NHC in Tullahoma, TN where she was surrounded by her loving family.

"Jacque" was born August 20, 1937 in Detroit, MI to the late Harry Hornkohl and KittieLee Stock. Jacque was raised and lived most of her life in Belleville, MI where she was a member of the Eastern Star, Chapter 73.

Jacque was preceded in death by a brother, Tod Hornkohl of Lincoln, NE. Jacque is survived by her sister, Kay Hornkohl, of Tullahoma, TN, nieces: Kellie Harmon and Sharon Livingston, nephews: Graig Hornkohl, Steven Hornkohl, David Hornkohl, Brian Hornkohl, and Kerry Lovelace. Jacque leaves behind two sons: Brad and Keith Reuben, a daughter, Lori Bass, and two grandchildren, Katie and Sara Bass.

Jacque was retired from Ford Motor Company World Headquarters and was a world traveler. The family would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to NHC Tullahoma and those who cared for "Aunt Jacque" with love and devotion. A celebration of life will be held at a later date for Jacque in Manistee, MI.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests that memorial donations be made in her honor to the Alzheimer's Foundation.

Online condolences may be made at www.davesculbertsonfuneralhome.com.

Daves-Culberston Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements.

JAMES ANDREW PARLETT

(May 24, 1968 – October 16, 2019)

Age 51, of Howell, died at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital. The funeral will be at Hollomon-Brown Funeral Home in Norfolk, VA, (757) 583-0177. Local arrangements by David C. Brown Funeral Home.

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Sumpter Twp. board hires five new paid-per-call fire fighters

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

At its regular meeting on Oct. 8, the Sumpter Township Board of Trustees voted unanimously to hire five new paid-per-call fire fighters.

Hired were: Samuel Scott Villa, Jr.; Allison Ray Crady; Courtney Ann Frost; Benjamin Lee-Karl Combs; and Richard Jason Landskroener, who is with the Belleville Fire Department.

Supervisor John Morgan said he recognized Landskroener as being a student in Morgan's sixth-grade class when Morgan was a teacher in the Romulus school district.

All were approved pending successfully passing a physical and drug test.

They will join the present department with 20 paid-per-call fire fighters that is considerably down in numbers from past years.

"Our numbers have been down," said Trustee Don LaPorte, who is the board's liaison to the fire department and also a fire fighter. "It's an awesome thing you've signed up for."

In other business at the 47-minute regular meeting, the board:

- Approved the \$9,800 low base bid of C&S Construction of Wyandotte to renovate the ramp at the newly relocated Water Department offices. Other bids were \$12,000 from Four G's Construction of Taylor and \$12,500 from Arbor Masonry, Inc. of Milan. The work includes renovation of the existing concrete ramp, removal and replacement of all steel railings, removal and replacement of existing concrete cap as needed (about 30%), repair of broken concrete and correcting the slope away from building;

- Tabled a proposal to pay \$1,295 to Total Info to renew a subscription to continue using on the government access channel for one year. The current subscription expires Oct. 31. The service includes sports headlines, world news headlines, local weather, top news, general news, political news, and business news. Treasurer Ken Bednark questioned only having one bid and he got other price proposals. Trustee Tim Rush said he was going to vote no on this since, "I don't think we need this information. We only need Sumpter Township information" on the government channel;

- Approved paying \$8,852.78 to West Shore Services of Allendale to purchase a

new computer and operating software for the township's emergency siren system. Director of Public Safety/Chief of Police Eric Luke said the current computer's age is at least pre-August 2010. Also, the software needs to be updated to work with the new computer and the software is the bulk of the cost. Luke said the general fund has paid siren costs in the past and the new finance director is deciding which specific fund will pay for this. Trustee Rush said the computer has been there since 2002 and Trustee Matthew Oddy said, "It's surprising it hasn't failed already." Chief Luke said the average computer's life is 4-5 years and, "We're on borrowed time";

- Heard Clerk Esther Hurst announce that there will be a special election on Nov. 5 to consider a bond issue for the Van Buren Public Schools. She said under the new law, voters can apply for an absentee ballot without having to state a reason;

- Heard township attorney Rob Young report he is continuing to monitor the development of case law on marijuana matters and he finds some are making an effort to be lenient and others to be more aggressive. "We need certainty," he said. He said he is working with the Michigan Association of Fire Fighters union on the contract and the fire fighters are negotiating with "the community's best interests at heart." Young said the county is requiring the proposed Verizon cell towers in the township to follow storm water management rules, which makes the township responsible for maintenance of storm water management on the sites if the owners fail to manage it;

- Learned that in the recent water study there was no lead found in any home and five homes had minimum amounts of copper;

- Heard Fire Chief Joseph Januszyk announce that a crew is at work fixing the drain in the fire hall, as approved by the board;

- Heard Treasurer Bednark say the tax bills will be mailed out on Dec. 1 and by then the process to pay by credit card should be ready. He said residents will be able to pay their water bills, dog licenses, and building permit fees, and any payment at the window, along with their property taxes, with a 3% fee for the service. He said they now have check scanning equipment in the office and they are consolidating accounts to Comerica;

- Heard Supervisor Morgan announce that

the Turkey Shoot continues each Sunday in October, the offices will be closed on Oct. 14 for Columbus Day, Hazardous Waste Collection will be at Wayne County Community College campus in Taylor from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Oct. 19 and the Harvest Fest at Crosswinds March is from 1 to 3 p.m., Oct. 19;

- Heard Rush announce the new updated township website is at sumptertwp.net, as well as .org and .com. He said it can be looked at on mobile phones. Rush also announced the Winter Storm Ready Training Class is at 6:30 p.m., Oct. 24, at the fire hall. He said it is an hour long;

- Heard Mary Sherwood announce the first-annual Bohn Road Block Party is at 4:30 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 19; and

- Heard complaints from residents on the brush that needs cutting along the roadways, the ditches that need to be cleaned out by the county, Comcast poor service, and the problems with mail delivery and other documents with the 48111 change by Van Buren Township.

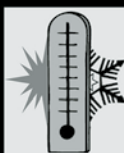
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Bring your pills for disposal to **Van Buren Police station lobby at 46425 Tyler Road on Saturday, October 26th between 10:00 am and 2:00 pm** for disposal. The service is free and anonymous, no questions asked.

(We cannot accept liquids, glass bottles, needles or sharps, only pills or patches.)

Gregory M. Laurain
Director of Public Safety

Van Buren Township Department of Public Safety
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Belleville

(continued from page 1)

have needed a new truck for some time.

"There is no alternative," Fielder said of the assessment. He said Van Buren Township, which at one point considered offering fire service to the city, "is moving on and doing its own thing."

"We can do a special assessment and we could have done it two months ago, but that wasn't appropriate," Fielder said.

He said the treasurer's office will look at whether the fire truck or police vehicle should be purchased first, and officially develop a plan, after the city gets the money.

He said they would have to develop a payment plan. The fire truck is urgent, but it has to come with the other needs, he said. He said vests and turnout gear and other things would have to be considered.

"Day to day necessities," Fielder said. "Each council can change that. This is an advisory vote."

Cynthia Talaga asked if the assessment could go for wages.

Mayor Conley said it would be used for both operating and capital expenses.

"That's why the language is written the way it is," she said.

Councilman Jesse Marcotte said they looked at the assessment, which had a wider pool and no DDA, versus a millage, which would have a smaller pool. He said every year the council would vote and under state law they could levy from zero mills to 20 mills. He said other cities have levied 14 mills for public safety.

He said they have decided a maximum of 2 mills. He said since 2012, the city's public safety expenses have exceeded the tax revenue.

Eric Luke said you can expect a low turnout in an off year and so what the few voters say isn't the whole story. He asked the council why they didn't make the decision they were elected to make.

"Why play this game of taking this to the voters?" Luke asked. "Twenty or thirty show up and want it. Why not make the hard choice? Just vote for it."

"I think this is the hard choice," Councilman Marcotte said.

Luke said this is "governing through polls." Rather than putting it on the ballot, which is expensive, it would be cheaper going door to door.

Fielder said they had until the third week in November to put the assessment on the tax roll for this year.

"We felt it was appropriate to have a public hearing," He said. "If 99% of the people say no, it doesn't mean we couldn't do it anyway. A new council could disagree."

Luke, who is public safety director/police chief for Sumpter Township, said he's obviously supportive of the assessment.

"I've never heard of something going on the ballot and not being binding," Luke said. "Maybe 'game' wasn't a good word for me to use. But, it's a very *strange* way to do it. I'm in favor of it."

When asked how much it would cost a taxpayer, Mayor Conley said the 2 mills on a \$400,000 home would cost \$200.

A fire fighter asked if this would just supplement everything or could the fire and police departments lose money from their budgets.

"If they just needed \$50,000 and we had \$90,000, we could offset operational costs in police and fire and could move the money out to another project and could take it out of fire fighters and police budgets," the mayor said.

A man who identified himself as the president of the Victoria Commons Homeowners Association said, "We don't want you to reduce the police and fire budgets and replenish the city budget so you can put art fixtures up and down Main Street." He said the Victoria Commons residents pay up to a \$1 million in taxes.

"I support this assessment, but you guys have a spending problem," he said.

Marcotte said for every \$1 in taxes city residents pay, 37 cents come to the city in two pots, the DDA and the city. He said of that under 25 cents goes to the city budget. There is not enough money coming in. He pointed out the city is landlocked and can't grow and the churches and schools do not pay taxes.

"We wouldn't want to create a shell game where you take from one and give to another," Marcotte said.

The Victoria Commons president said he would like to fix the problem permanently.

Marcotte said Belleville doesn't have a public safety millage, but many municipalities do.

Anna Loranger said the sculptures in the city are rented and not owned. She asked who decides on this and was told the DDA board furnishes the art.

Fire Chief Loranger said, in the end, it's the taxpayers who pay for the sculptures. He told how he asked for \$160,000 for the fire department in the new budget and it was cut \$60,000.

"How do I know you won't do that again?" Chief Loranger said.

"I would like to have this vote so future councils can say 90% of the voters (and you can talk about the numbers later) want to do this..." Fielder said.

"It will start to look like a shell game," Chief Loranger said referring to Marcotte's comments. "You can cut the fire department budget again and fill in with the assessment ... it feels like I'm being penalized for being fiscally responsible."

After more discussion, Marcotte said to Chief Loranger, "I don't think you should have to ask, time after time, for things you need."



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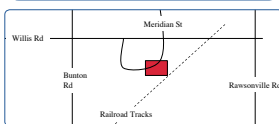
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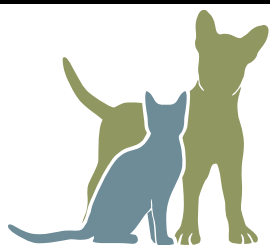
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Belleville gets offer from couple who wants to pray for them, help city

By Rosemary K. Oztman
Independent Editor

At its regular meeting on Monday the Belleville City Council was addressed by a couple who lives in Waterford Township and works in the Van Buren Public Schools.

Raynard Anderson said he has worked in security at Belleville High School for three years and his wife Toni has worked in security at McBride Middle School for three years. He said people may recognize him because he takes tickets at school athletic events.

He said he has started a male mentorship program, Man Up, at BHS for borderline students. He said he teaches you're a student first before being an athlete.

"We're drawn to this community to serve," he said, noting they are looking for a home in this area.

"Are there any needs of the city council we could pray for?" he asked. "We're here to serve."

He said they have been chaplains for the Detroit Police Department for many years and he also coaches freshman basketball at BHS.

He said columnist Mitch Albom did a couple of stories about what they did in Detroit.

Councilman Tom Fielder, who knows the couple from his substitute teaching in the schools, asked if the fire department needed a chaplain.

Fire Chief Brian Loranger said his department does have chaplains they can call on when needed.

"We need to put you in touch with a real estate agent who knows where the Belleville City border lines are," Councilman Fielder joked.

No council member suggested anything they could pray about to help.

In other business at the 20-minute regular meeting, the council:

- Approved the request of Egan's Pub to have a bar for Dec. 5-8 Winterfest at the Fourth Street Square serving the Ladies Night Out Shopping on the Thursday of that week, the late-night movie on Friday, and the band for 21 and over on Saturday. Jennifer Winter said for two of the events they would serve inside the pub and have a blocked off area for the drinks to be taken outside;

- Approved the mayor's appointment of Kelly McWilliams to the Downtown Development Authority with no term announced;

- Heard Mayor Kerreen Conley announce she had received the official letter of resignation from the city manager with a final date of Feb. 3. Mayor Conley also announced the new Community Pantry put outside of the Clement Insurance agency at 354 Main St. People may take free food if needed, she said;

- Heard DPW Director Rick Rutherford say the seawall repairs have been completed and the restoration and erecting of the fence are coming;

- Approved accounts payable of \$254,377.47 and the following purchases in excess of \$500: to C&R Lakeside Landscape, \$98,333 as the final payment per the contract for the seawall replacement; to Wolverine Freightliner, \$5,780.96 for dump truck brake repair; to SMART, \$5,767.20 for bus repair from the Senior Transportation budget; and to E-Kit Training, \$750 for police officer training;

- Heard Ken Voigt announce from the audience the Belleville Area Council for the Arts annual art show at the BYC on Nov. 1-3. He said applications are still available; and

- Heard City Manager Diana Kollmeyer remind everyone that volunteers are needed to help place flags on the graves of veterans at Hillside Cemetery beginning at 8:30 this Saturday morning.

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Marine Private Matthew Colegrove of Van Buren Township completed Marine Recruit Training at Parris Island, SC, earlier this month. He enlisted with the Recruiting Office out of Ann Arbor and left for Recruit Training on July 15. He graduated as a full-fledged Marine on Oct. 11. Private Colegrove now goes on to Camp Geiger for Marine Combat Training.

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Court Watching:

Stephen Ford bound over to circuit court on five charges

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

On Oct. 9, 34th District Court Judge Brian A. Oakley ordered Stephen Latroy Ford, 49, of Van Buren Township bound over to circuit court for an Oct. 23 arraignment on the information on five charges.

Ford is charged with two counts of assault with a dangerous weapon (felonious assault), weapons felony firearm, brandishing a firearm in public, and a fifth charge, felony firearm, added after his preliminary exam was over.

Assistant Wayne County Prosecutor Mark Bernardi called William Waugh as his first witness. Waugh said on Sept. 21 he got an order to repossess a 2017 Hyundai from Labrenda Ford in the 14700 block of

Brookside Drive in Van Buren Township.

Waugh testified he worked for BSR (Body Standard Reproduction) towing and he repossessed cars in a white Ford F-350 tow truck with cameras and usually his wife Amanda is with him and she was in the front passenger seat that day.

Waugh said he was wearing the same repossession shirt, clearly marked, that he wore in the courtroom to testify.

He said he located the car in a driveway, verified the paper plate and backed up to the Hyundai to repossess it, but Labrenda Ford ran out of the garage and climbed into the car after Waugh had already started to lift it from the ground.

He testified that's when Stephen Ford came out the front door of the house. Waugh said he identified himself and said he was repossessing Labrenda's car and didn't have any problem with the man yelling at him from the door.

Waugh testified Stephen Ford called out, "Honey, get my gun," to a female in the yard and when she didn't move, he ran

inside the house, and came back outside with a pistol, which he aimed at Waugh and his wife. Waugh testified that Ford yelled that Waugh had three seconds to put the car down or he would shoot them.

"I heard a bullet go into the chamber," he said, noting he dropped the car three-quarters of the way down, when Labrenda drove the car into the garage.

"I was flooring it out of there with 911 on the line," Waugh said. He said three officers were dispatched to his location and arrived in about seven minutes.

When retained defense attorney Horace Cotton asked if he would take the car with Labrenda in it, he said she got in after he lifted the car up and there was no chance to ask her to exit because all the yelling started from Stephen. He said there were two other gentlemen with Stephen and two other cars in the subdivision driveway.

"We're stealing cars," Waugh told Cotton. "That's what we do."

He said while often people threaten to
(continued on page 14)

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Court watching

(continued from page 13)

get a gun, he doesn't do anything until he sees a gun. "I take 20 cars a week and work from Detroit and never had this problem," Waugh said.

He testified that he called out three times that he was a "repo man" for Labrenda Ford.

Stephen Ford was bound over by Judge Oakley. He is free on \$5,000/personal recognition bond.

William Bryan Snyder

William Bryan Snyder, 29, of Chelsea waived his preliminary exam on a charge of receiving and concealing a stolen vehicle on Sept. 17 in Van Buren Township. He is due at the Frank Murphy Hall of Justice on Oct. 23 for an arraignment on the information.

Snyder is free on \$10,000/personal recognizance bond.

Terry Dean Gallardo

Charges were dismissed against Terry Dean Gallardo, 34, after Assistant Wayne County Prosecutor Larry King announced that two witnesses for the prosecution did not appear to testify in court. Charges could be reinstated in the future.

Gallardo had been charged with assault with intent to do great bodily harm less than murder and domestic violence on Sept. 22 in Van Buren Township. Defense attorney Curtis Davenport filled in for the court-appointed attorney who was not present.

Amanda Elizabeth Malmsten

Amanda Elizabeth Malmsten, 44, was found guilty of domestic violence after a bench trial before Judge Oakley. She was accused of assaulting her husband Jason Allen Malmsten at their home in the 49000 block of Bemis Road in Van Buren Township.

Judge Oakley sentenced her to 12 months of non-reporting probation, a fine of \$345, and no contact with the victim. She was given credit for the two days she spent in jail.

Jason Malmsten said the two are divorcing and she just got served with the papers. They no longer live together.

Jason's 15-year-old son testified to seeing his stepmother kick his father in the lower back and Jason testified she also punched

his father in the back during that incident on Aug. 13. Jason testified that he had a bad back. A Van Buren Police officer testified to what he found when he responded to the boy's call that morning.

Defense attorney Gary Janadia played several recordings his client had made of her husband yelling at her and Janadia also called Amanda to the witness stand to testify to the terrible relationship the two had. She denied hitting him. She was so talkative on the stand, speaking over the judge, that Judge Oakley, at one point after telling her many times not to speak while the judge was speaking, told her to "shut up" or he would hold her in contempt of court.

The teenage son, who lives with his mother in Taylor, told Judge Oakley he didn't know why his father and stepmother didn't get along, but he asked each of them to forgive each other for whatever it was because his father really loved her.

Judge Oakley said he found the boy to be an incredible witness.

Prosecutor King said the son witnessed the domestic violence and testified to it and, "This is not a happy marriage."

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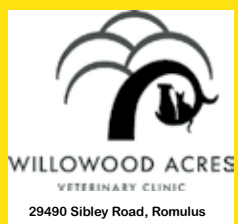
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Belleville Arts Council announces schedule of cultural events for 2020

The Belleville Area Council for the Arts, committed to providing cultural opportunities to the residents of the tri-community, has put in place events for spring, summer and fall of 2020.

- Purple Rose Theater (Chelsea) – Attend together on Wednesday, March 4, 2020 at 3 p.m. “Roadsigns,” a new play and music by Jeff Daniels at \$35 per ticket.

- Michigan Opera Theater (Detroit) – “Pagliacci” dress rehearsal at the Michigan Opera Theater at \$35 per person, including a lecture about the opera in Belleville during the week prior to the opera. The excursion is Thursday, May 7, 2020, at 11 a.m.

- June 2020 – Belleville Area Council for the Arts bus trip to the Detroit Institute of Arts for the Van Gogh exhibit, with transportation by the DIA.

- Missoula Children’s Theater – Missoula Children’s Theater at McBride Middle School, the week of July 12 through July 18, 2020.

- Wild Swan Theater of Ann Arbor – Wild Swan Theater is a traveling children’s theater. Venue and dates to be announced for “Once Upon a Time” and “Tale of the Mischievous Bunny,” for ages 3-8.

“We have planned wonderful events,” said Barbara Miller of the arts council. “All residents are invited to attend. Locations of ticket sales will be announced.”

The Belleville Area Council for the Arts is open to all members of the community. For membership information, call (734) 357-8000. Art council meetings are open to the membership on the second Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. at Trinity Episcopal Church, 11575 Belleville Rd., Van Buren Township.

Birthdays

Oct. 18 – Brenda Bordeaux
Oct. 24 – Allison (Cinnamon) Robertson
Oct. 26 – Paul Henning
Oct. 27 – Brenda McArthur
Oct. 29 – Dennis Sturtz
Oct. 30 – Lynn Wadsworth, Amanda Riggs, Tim Marsh
Nov. 1 – John Knopf

Do you have a birthday in October? Does anyone you know have a birthday soon? Call the *Independent* at 699-9020 and let us know. We’ll list it in this column ASAP following your call. There is no charge.

Anniversary

Oct. 26 – Jim & Shelly Chudzinski, 6 years
Oct. 30 – Dave & Martha Brown, 49 years



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A Tree Grows in Belleville

Learn how to grow fruit trees and take a piece of Fred C. Fischer Library history home with you! Dawn Hughes, certified arborist and owner of Urban Arbor Care, will lead participants through two different methods of tree propagation using the library’s own beloved crab apple.

A Clone is Born, Part I

Saturday, October 26, 10 am
Participants will take cuttings from the mother tree and learn how to “root” the cuttings to preserve the tree’s identical genetics. Attendees may also collect crab apples to sow at home.

A Clone is Born, Part II

Saturday, November 23, 10 am
Learn about the “wood wide web” and the importance of a healthy soil micro-biome and tree roots. Repot successful cuttings from the first session and learn how to overwinter the clones.

Children of the Mother Tree

Spring 2020
This seed-planting program will be perfect for kids! Stay tuned for more information.

Planting Celebration

Fall 2020/Spring 2021
A clone of the original crab apple from the Fred C. Fischer building will be planted on the new library grounds.

This program series is suitable for all ages, but children must be accompanied by an adult. Registration is required for each session.



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Court Watching:

Four bound over on charges of credit cards stolen at Harbour Club

By Rosemary K. Otzman
Independent Editor

Four defendants – all Ypsilanti residents -- held their preliminary exams together before 34th District Court Chief Judge Tina Brooks Green on Oct. 16 for their alleged parts in the stealing of credit cards and wallets from cars at Harbour Club apartments on Sept. 24.

After the exam, Judge Green bound over all four on the charges for an Oct. 30 arraignment on the information at the Frank Murphy Hall of Justice in Detroit.

Wayne County Assistant Prosecutor Mark Bernardi asked the judge to drop charge six since they were unable to prove there were six cards stolen. Charged with five counts of stealing a financial transaction device are:

- Kentaria Shi-Tarra Cummings, 27, who is also charged with driving while license suspended-2nd. She is accused of being the driver of the getaway car and was represented by attorney Whitney Lemelin, who was filling in for her court-appointed attorney Brigid Markey;
- Samuel Malcolm Hamilton, 19, who was defended by his court-appointed attorney Whitney Lemelin;
- Jarvier Savar McIntyre, 18, defended by court-appointed attorney Duane Johnson; and
- Alexander Harrison McMullan, 19, defended by court-appointed attorney Robert Jureczyk.

Each was free on \$5,000 personal recognizance bond.

Before the exam began, attorney Lemelin stated there was no conflict of interest with him representing Hamilton and also standing in for Cummings' attorney who could not be present.

First witness brought by Prosecutor Bernardi was Van Buren Township Police Officer Christopher Hayes, who testified that on Sept. 24 at 3:30 a.m. he was on road patrol and was dispatched to Harbour Club apartments. The reporting party who called 911 said a car alarm was heard and three individuals with backpacks were in the parking lot.

Officer Hayes said when he got there he talked to someone who told him he should be looking for three black males with backpacks and they had been seen running east, which he relayed on the radio to other officers. He said he started looking into cars that were broken into and didn't find any.

He said two other officers had found a vehicle with four people in it – three males and a female – about 200 feet away from where he originally called them. The group had two large backpacks. He said the males were sweating profusely even though it was in the 60s and cool.

Hayes said he talked to the two males in

(continued on page 17)

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WANTED – SMALL CONTAINERS of shampoo, toothpaste, etc. to take to homeless in Detroit. Drop off at Bladez's, 601 E. Huron River Dr. (734) 697-5600 TFN

I WANT A ROOM TO RENT. I don't drink, smoke, or take drugs. (301) 980-5991 11/07

Notice to Advertisers:

The *Belleville-Area Independent* will not be liable for failure to publish an ad as requested or for more than one incorrect insertion of an advertisement. In the event of any error or omission in printing or publication of an advertisement, you must notify us within five days of publication or on the date of insertion, if an ad is scheduled as part of a package, so there is time to correct subsequent publications. The *Independent's* liability shall be limited to an adjustment for the cost of the space occupied by the error with a maximum liability being cancellation of the cost of the first incorrect advertisement or republication of the corrected advertisement. Under no circumstances shall the *Independent* be liable for consequential damages of any kind.

SERVICES

I WILL PROVIDE elder care, cleaning, shopping, errands, & appointments. Dependable. (734) 406-4618 10/24

SERVICES

LOVING PET CARE SERVICES, LLC

Visit: www.lovingpetcareservices.com

Call (734) 377-2710

SERVICES

A&L SERVICES

Home Improvement & Handyman Service
Painting, Drywall, Carpentry,
Electrical, Plumbing,
Ceramic Tile, Kitchens & Bath.
Serving Belleville Since
1995. Call Aaron Schultz
@ 734-740-0628

M.D. APPLIANCE SERVICE

Refrigerators • Washers
Dryers • Ranges
\$40 House Call

Call Monday-Friday, 9am-4:30pm

(734) 782-3354

PLUMBING • SEWER DRAINS • HANDYMAN

Gutters Cleaned!
Power Washing!
CALL US!

Local To The
Belleville Area. Call
(313) 740-6276.
Ask For Bill.

FIREARM TRANSFERS \$40

Consignments-Buy-Sell-Used-New

Email: FFL48111@gmail.com

Call or Text: 734-740-0746

LOCAL HANDYMAN – SOME Jobs too LARGE – NO JOB too SMALL. LICENSED & REFERENCES. (734) 765-9224 TFN

LARRY'S HANDYMAN SERVICE. No job too small. Interior/exterior painting, hang wallpaper, power washing & carpentry. (618) 267-7774 03/26

INTERIOR/EXTERIOR MAINTENANCE. Powerwashing, painting, deck staining, roof & gutter leaks, landscaping & window cleaning. (734)796-3628 10/24

SERVICES

Court watching

(continued from page 16)

the back seat. McIntyre, who Hayes said falsely identified himself at first, said he was there with the driver, but she didn't know who he was.

Cummings told him that McIntyre was a

friend of her boyfriend. Cummings said she was there to visit a friend in the apartment complex, but had no name, address, or phone number for the alleged friend. Her driver's license was suspended, so she was taken into custody.

Then, the others were also taken into custody and the vehicle was searched.

Hayes testified when they found an ID card in the backpack with a credit card with a name other than any of those in the car in a wallet, they put everything back in place and got a search warrant.

Under cross examination by Lemelin, Hayes said the car was backed into a parking spot, with the lights on inside the vehicle and the radio on, with the windows fogged up. Hayes said Cummings told her she drove to the location.

Attorney Johnson cross-examined Hayes and Hayes testified that the two large, black backpacks and a child's backpack, too, were between McIntyre and McMullan in the back seat. Hayes said he didn't know if the two knew what was in the backpacks.

Next witness was VBT Police Officer Michael Rini who also was on road patrol that night and came to the parked vehicle that others had located. He said a wallet with a white male's identification with an address in Harbour Club was given to him and he went to contact the man. The man said he thought his wallet with the credit cards was inside his car, but Officer Rini told him he had the wallet. Rini said he dusted the man's unlocked, undamaged car for fingerprints and didn't find any.

Third witness was VBT Detective William Bettendorf, officer in charge of the case, who said the vehicle with the suspects was impounded and brought to the police department sally port. After they got the search warrant they searched the vehicle and found various items including a purse with a wallet with a woman's identification that said an address in another community, but upon investigation they found the woman had moved to Harbour Club.

Det. Bettendorf said Det. Mike Long helped him search the car and Long logged in what was found. Under cross examination, Det. Bettendorf said there were other cards on the floor in the back,

not in the backpack, but there were no names on them.

Although the three defense attorneys asked Judge Green to dismiss the charges because their clients were just sitting in a car together and there was no proof that Cummings drove the car, Judge Green bound them all over for trial.

Prosecutor Bernardi said the male defendants were definitely sweating profusely from having run to the car, and there is the evidence in the backpacks that were in the car.

Micaiah Carlin Minor

The preliminary exam for Micaiah Carlin Minor, 17, of Canton was reset by Judge Green to Nov. 6. The results of his independent competency hearing were not to be ready until Oct. 30, so Judge Green gave them another week to make sure it was ready.

Minor is charged with second-degree murder in the death of Van Buren Township resident John Robert McElreath, 64, on May 7 in Van Buren Township.

It is alleged that Minor, an unlicensed driver, was driving southbound on Belleville Road at a high rate of speed, when he disregarded a red light at Ecorse, crossed over the double-yellow line and drove into northbound traffic, striking the victim in his car. McElreath died from his injuries in the crash.

Minor is free on tether after posting \$50,000/10% bond. His retained defense attorney is David Cripps.

Dale Leslie Raymond

Dale Leslie Raymond, II, 54, waived his preliminary exam on a charge of fleeing police in a vehicle in Van Buren Township on Aug. 29.

He is scheduled for an arraignment on the information at circuit court on Oct. 30. Raymond is free on \$10,000 personal bond and his defense attorney is Neighborhood Defender Service.

Vetra Denice Pettway

Vetra Denice Pettway, 60, of Detroit waived her preliminary exam on charges of felonious assault, interfering with a crime report, and reckless driving in Sumpter Township on May 26.

She is scheduled to be at circuit court for an arraignment on the information on Oct. 30. Her defense attorney Grant Miller stipulated the competency evaluation found her able to stand trial. She is free on personal bond of \$5,000.

Alicia Joy Williams

Alicia Joy Williams, 42, of Van Buren Township, waived her preliminary exam on a charge of possession of narcotics or cocaine less than 25 grams on June 10 in Van Buren Township. Judge Green bound her over to circuit court for an Oct. 30 arraignment on the information. She is free on \$5,000 personal recognizance bond. Her court-appointed attorney is Robert Jurczyk.

Amealia Roseb Blackburn

Amealia Roseb Blackburn, 21, of Van Buren Township, waived her preliminary exam on a charge of assaulting/resisting/obstructing a police officer in the City of

(continued on page 21)

INDEPENDENT CLASSIFIED ADS

HELP WANTED

AREA TRAINEE for local Real Estate Firm. For appointment call. (734) 697-1800

HELP WANTED

MAINTENANCE HELP for a manufactured home community in Canton & Belleville area. Experience preferred. (734) 558-5760

10/31

Quest, Inc. is HIRING

We're looking for fun, energetic & caring Direct Care Workers to assist persons with special needs we serve in their own homes. Starting wage \$11.30 per hour for trained staff.

Applicants must be:

- **Responsible & committed and work well with others.**
- **Have a clean criminal record.**
- **Be available for training. MORC/WCCMH/CLS Training is preferred.**

Send Letter/Resume to:
recruiter@questserv.org
or Call (734) 458-8140



Summary:

A2Mac1 is the world's most trusted provider of benchmarking information. Through specialized data capture methods and industry-leading software solutions we have become the partner of choice for benchmarking data in the automotive industry and beyond. As a medium size company with a global staff we are seeking professional, hardworking and highly motivated individuals to join our team. Experience with automotive parts and/or services, photography, CAD and Design software experience is preferred but not required. This person must possess good communication skills, a friendly and enthusiastic disposition and be self-motivated. If you are interested in working with a fast growing innovative company please apply to any of the open positions below at <https://www.indeed.com/>

Open Positions:

- Innovation Bench Scanner
- Human Machine Interface Analysis Technician
- 2D Vehicle analysis
- Vehicle Electrical Architecture

Company Benefits

- Free Health and dental plan.
- 401K retirement plan.
- Paid Time Off.
- Tuition Reimbursement.
- Flexible Spending Account.

PUBLISHER'S NOTICE:

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention, to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain of discrimination call HUD toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. The toll-free telephone number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.



'After the Harvest Book Sale' is Nov 2 at library

"After the Harvest Book Sale" will be held Saturday, Nov. 2, noon to 3 p.m. at the Belleville Area District Library. Members of the Friends of the Library will have first choice 11 a.m. to noon.

Everything will be priced at 25 cents each: adult, teen and children's hardcover books and paperbacks, audio books and tapes, text books, DVD's CD's, etc.

Holiday books will be available at the same price of 25 cents each. Sale prices will exclude a table of collectible special-priced books.

The library will discontinue used-book donations until the new library opens in 2020.

Public Notice

NOTICE TO CREDITORS TO ALL CREDITORS:

The decedent, **Marie M. Gondek**, date of birth, May 12, 1928, Grantor of the Marie M. Gondek Living Trust Agreement, dated May 20, 1993, who lived at 32001 Cherry Hill, Apt 507, Garden City, MI 48186, formerly of 6256 Bobcat Trail, Alger, MI 48610 died February 11, 2019.

Creditors of the decedent are notified that all claims against the estate will be forever barred unless presented to Gregory G. Gondek, Trustee, at 1060 Arcola, Garden City, MI 48135, or the attorney for the trustee, Jim Thomas, at 5191 Hampton Place, Saginaw, Michigan 48604, within 4 months after the date of October 24, 2019 (first publication of this notice).



City of Belleville Public Notice



City of Belleville REQUEST FOR BIDS Refuse & Recycling Services



The City of Belleville is requesting bids from qualified contractors for municipal refuse and recycling services.

Bids must be submitted to the City Clerk no later than 4:00 p.m. on Monday, November 18, 2019.

Bid instructions, service specifications and official bid forms are available at the office of the City Clerk, 6 Main Street, Belleville MI 48111 (phone 734-697-9323).

Sherri Scharf
City Clerk/Treasurer

Publish: 10/17-10/24/19



Sumpter Township Public Notice



NOTICE OF ELECTION SUMPTER TOWNSHIP, MICHIGAN NOVEMBER 5, 2019 SPECIAL ELECTION

TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF SUMPTER TOWNSHIP:

Notice is hereby given that a Special election will be held in Sumpter Township on Tuesday, November 5, 2019. The polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

AT THE FOLLOWING POLLING LOCATIONS:

Precinct 1 & 3	Sumpter Community Center, 23501 Sumpter Road
Precinct 2	Moose Lodge, 45476 Harris Road
Precinct 4 & 6	Fire Station #1, 20550 Sumpter Road

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the **Van Buren School District** will be voting on the following millage proposal as presented and listed below:

VAN BUREN PUBLIC SCHOOLS GENERAL OBLIGATION UNLIMITED BOND PROPOSAL FOR BUILDING AND SITE PURPOSES IN THE AMOUNT OF NOT TO EXCEED \$35,490,000

Full text of the ballot proposal may be obtained at the Sumpter Township office located at 23480 Sumpter Road, Belleville, MI 48111. Sample ballots can also be found at www.mi.gov/vote.

Absentee ballots are available for all elections; registered voters may contact the local clerk to obtain an application for an absent voter ballot.

To comply with the Help America Vote Act (HAVA), voting instructions will be available in audio format and in Braille. Arrangements for obtaining the instructions in these alternative formats can be made by contacting the township clerk in advance of the election. All polling locations are accessible for voters with disabilities.

Sumpter Township

Notice of Public Accuracy Test of Voting Equipment

To the qualified electors of the Sumpter Township, Wayne County, State of Michigan: Notice is hereby given that a Public Accuracy Test for the electronic equipment that will be used in Precinct 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 for the Special Election is scheduled for Tuesday, October 29, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. in the Sumpter Township Boardroom, located at 23480 Sumpter Rd., Belleville, MI 48111. The Public Accuracy Test is conducted to demonstrate that the computer programming used to tabulate the votes cast at the election meets the requirements of Michigan election law.

Esther Hurst
Sumpter Township Clerk

Published: October 24, 2019
Posted: October 24, 2019



City of Belleville Public Notice



NOTICE OF ELECTION FOR THE CITY GENERAL ELECTION TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2019

TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF BELLEVILLE:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that an election will be held in the City of Belleville on Tuesday, November 5, 2019. The polls will be open from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. for both Precincts 1 & 2 at the polling location:

St. Anthony's Church
409 W. Columbia Ave.

Polling location is accessible to voters with disabilities.

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that the residents in the City of Belleville will be voting on the following:

Two (2) City Council Members Mayor

Van Buren Public Schools District Tax Bond Proposal for building and site purposes in an amount not to exceed \$35,490,000. If approved by a majority vote of the electors at this election, the bonds will be general obligation unlimited tax bonds payable from general ad valorem taxes. The estimated millage that will be levied for the proposed bonds in 2020 is .78 mill (\$0.78 on each \$1,000 of taxable valuation) for a -0- mills net increase over the prior year's levy.

Public Safety Special Assessment to raise money for operations and to purchase equipment for the City Police and Fire Departments by annual special assessment levies of up to 2 mills (\$2.00 per \$1,000 of taxable value) on all real property in the City that is not exempt from property taxes for a period of 10 consecutive years to fund the 2020 to 2029 fiscal years.

Applications to vote absentee and sample ballots are available in the City Clerk's office, 6 Main Street, Belleville MI 48111 or on the City's website: www.belleville.mi.us/elections.

Sherri Scharf,
City Clerk

Publish: October 24, 2019

VBT

(continued from page 1)

Supervisor McNamara and his getting the budget put together and ready for approval way before the Dec. 31 state deadline, prodded White to say what positive things he sees in the budget.

White said the new fire department vehicle equipment is good and the rebuilding of the public safety.

"I'm conservative when it has to do with money," White continued. "Seniors on the south end are struggling. Some just have social security ... We should give them value for their money ... not giving out raises willy-nilly to people you like ... Last year there was \$1 million approved for capital improvement, some necessary,

some not."

Trustee Sherry Frazier said the raises were based on what some employees did.

Miller said she had meant for White to explain what he liked in the *process* of approving this budget.

Miller then asked Clerk Wright to explain how little taxes the people pay.

Clerk Wright said, "We need to educate the people." He said there are 7,500 rooftops that pay taxes in the township. Not all the taxes people pay go to VBT, and he listed what goes to the county, WCCC, and the schools. He said the township gets \$26 per rooftop, plus the public safety millage.

"We're not in the business to make money, but to collect taxes and provide services," he said in response to White's comments about how business worked at Kroger's where he had retired.

Supervisor McNamara said \$860,000 of the \$17 million budget is paid by the residents. Six million dollars of the budget comes to the police.

White suggested residents look at the websites of nearby communities to see how public money is spent there.

"We get a lot of grants, thank goodness," said Trustee Frazier.

At the beginning of the 2020 budget discussion, Supervisor McNamara read his budget statement. He said it's a \$600,000 reduction in the budget, from \$18.3 million last year to \$17.6 million.

He said they are completing the rebuilding of the VBT facilities and the fire department will have six full-time fire fighters. There are two Iron Belle Trail projects. One is final construction stages from Edgemont to Riggs Park, with grants from the state plus \$100,000 from the township. The second project is the trail at Old Denton Road and Van Buren Park, which has a \$500,000 federal grant through the county.

Also, there are grants for French Landing Park and an additional \$31,000 is being added to the county budget for this park.

McNamara said there are more than \$1 million in grants from the county.

He also said the township has a 20-year lease from Waste Management for the buildings at the golf course. The township is working on a new Master Plan and looking at the possibility of a community center.

He asked for two changes to the proposed budget that evening. One is to move the REAL [Revealing Exceptionally Amazing Leaders] program budget from Human Resources to the Supervisor's Office. The second change is to add \$100,000 to the fire department for wages.

At the work/study session the day before, Miller said the township gets the money for the REAL program from the Wayne Detroit Mental Health Authority.

"I don't know how it landed on her desk," she said referring to Human Resources Director Nicole Sumpter.

Frazier agreed that for two to three months Sumpter is tied up with this REAL program to train young people.

Also, during the work/study session, McNamara said he couldn't believe the township didn't get a grant it applied for to get funds for new fire fighters. He again said he couldn't believe they didn't get the grant and he'd like to give the fire department some help by giving it \$100,000 extra in its budget.

At the Oct. 1 board meeting, McNamara assured the public that they had scrutinized the figures and the fire department budget would be "straight-line" without any need for more funds to hire six full-time fire fighters.

When asked if the township can reapply for the grant, he said it was only for new fire fighters and VBT would no longer qualify.

McNamara said the earlier figures didn't take into account something like the dam breaking or a huge house fire that would need a lot of fire fighters.

Miller said if the fire department doesn't use the extra money it can go back to the general fund.

In other business at the one-hour-31-minute meeting, the board:

- Approved the supervisor's appointment of Denise Partridge to fill the balance of her late husband Steve Partridge's term on the Water and Sewer Commission until

(continued on page 20)

City of Belleville Public Notice

POLICE VEHICLE AUCTION

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN BY THE UNDERSIGNED THAT ON **WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2019 at 11:30 A.M.** at **Great Lakes Towing, 42350 Van Born Road, Belleville, County of Wayne, Michigan**, a public sale of the following vehicles will be held:

2010 FORD, FOUR DOOR, VIN: 1FAHP2HW3AG163839

1988 YAMAHA, CYL, VIN: 2U7060917

2000 TRAILER, ASSEMBLED, VIN: 00024778387

DATE: OCTOBER 21, 2019 BELLEVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

6 MAIN STREET

PUBLISH: OCTOBER 24, 2019 BELLEVILLE, MICHIGAN 48111

BY SHERRI SCHARE, CITY CLERK

City of Belleville Public Notice

Hillside Cemetery Advisory Committee

REQUEST FOR VOLUNTEERS

Flag Placement for Veterans' Day 2019

8:30 a.m. on Saturday, October 26th

(Rain date: November 9th)



The Cemetery Advisory Committee will be placing American Flags on the graves of all veterans who are buried at Hillside Cemetery on Denton Road.

We will begin placing flags on Saturday, October 26th at 8:30 a.m. and need volunteers to help. Each Cemetery section takes only about one hour of work.

Please consider this small sacrifice of time and join us to honor our veterans who fought to keep us free.



Sherri Scharf
City Clerk/Treasurer

PUBLISH: Oct 10, 17 & 24, 2019

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Charter Township of Van Buren Board of Zoning Appeals will hold a public hearing on **Tuesday, November 12, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.**, at the Van Buren Township Hall, 46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township, MI 48111 to consider the following variance requests:

1. Case # 19-035- A request by Satinder Kaur, 9060 Walden Drive (Parcel ID# 83-040-02-0091-000) for a variance from Section 3.106 (D) for R-1B Single Family Residential District:

Rear Yard Setback:

- Required: 35 feet
- Proposed: 22.76 feet
- Variance requested: 12.24 feet

Please address any written comments to the Van Buren Township Board of Zoning Appeals, at 46425 Tyler Road, Van Buren Township, MI 48111 or via email at mbest@vanburen-mi.org. Written comments will be accepted until 4:00 p.m. on the hearing date and all materials relating to this request are available for public inspection at the Van Buren Township Hall prior to the hearing.

Van Buren Township will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aides and services to individuals with disabilities who are planning to attend. Please contact the Van Buren Township Planning and Economic Development Department at 734-699-8913 at least seven (7) days in advance of the meeting if you require assistance.

Published: 10/24/2019

VBT

(continued from page 19)

June 1, 2021. When Denise Partridge served as a township trustee, 2010-14, she was board liaison to the Water and Sewer Commission and Director Taylor said he was a new director at that time and Trustee Partridge was very professional and knowledgeable. He said he will be glad to have her back;

- Approved the supervisor's reappointment of Bill Osier to the Construction Code of Appeals Board with a term to expire Feb. 28, 2022;

- Approved revisions to the Local Development Finance Authority bylaws which were approved by the LDFA at its Sept. 10 regular meeting;

- Approved the purchase of five DIRT Walls from Elevate Interior Construction for the total amount of \$47,816 with four to be expensed from Cable Capital Outlay and the Assessing non-tech wall to be paid with Building & Grounds Capital Outlay. The DIRT (Doing It Right This Time) panels are glass and are flush with the walls, with the TV sets to fit embedded inside being purchased separately. The panels will be installed in

the main hallway public notice area, Clerk's office, newly renovated Parks & Recreation entrance, and at the entrance of the September Days Senior Center. A non-tech DIRT wall will also be installed in the Assessing office for privacy. Director of Public Services Matt Best said his office will coordinate messages to be sent to the public in these panels;

- Approved paying \$168,792.27 to American Interiors to complete the main office furniture renovation including 100 new board room audience chairs, furniture for public safety, and benches for the main hallway. Best said the present board room audience chairs will be stored for use as backups;

- Approved paying Lawrence M. Clarke, Inc., \$139,293 with a 10% contingency to be used at the discretion of the Water and Sewer Director to address changes and unforeseen conditions that may arise in the construction of the Belleville Square Water Main Loop Project. Lawrence M. Clarke was the lowest of six bidders. Director Taylor said for whatever reason years ago this water main was not looped and he is concerned this creates a potential risk for continual service delivery to a dialysis clinic located on the premises. Due to the critical nature of

these medical services, and the need for an uninterrupted water supply for these services, Taylor recommended the loop. He said there were more than three dozen other dead-end lines in the township;

- Approved the second, final, reading of an ordinance to modify the requirements of the zoning ordinance with regards to required setbacks for non-conforming single-family residential-zoned parcels with lake frontage. McNamara said there were five to six lots involved;

- Heard McNamara's assistant Dan Selman announce that Pam Fleming of the Goodfellows had asked him to announce that Goodfellows will accept request for help from Nov. 4 through Dec. 6 at the Van Buren Township Police Department. This is only for residents of VBT and the City of Belleville. Sumpter has its own Goodfellows. Fleming said anyone with questions may call (734) 260-4150;

- Learned the Veteran Days Luncheon, sponsored by the Yankee Air Museum and Regency at Canton, will be at noon, Nov. 7, at September Days Senior Center. Make reservations by Nov. 4 by calling (734) 699-8918. Lunch is \$3;

- Was advised the annual Candy Loop will be held from 4 to 6 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 26, at Quirk Park. It will be inside township hall in case of inclement weather. Businesses wishing to participate may call (734) 699-8921;

- Head Clerk Wright announce a school bond is on the Nov. 5 ballot and his office will be open from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, Nov. 3, for absentee voters. He said the Nov. 4 work/study and the Nov. 5 regular meetings are cancelled because of the election. Wright said there were 3,345 absentee ballot applications sent out and 892 ballots have been returned. He said there are 21,487 registered voters in VBT and there is no such thing as a small election. He said new state law says you do not need a reason to vote absentee;

- Learned the Belleville Area Museum is having a Halloween Party from 5-7 p.m. on Oct. 31 during downtown trick or treating in the city. McNamara said the museum's floor was being worked on right now; and

- Watched two videos created by Ryan Nichols -- one of Coffee with a Cop at McDonald's and one of the Master Plan meetings.

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING MINUTES OCTOBER 15, 2019

Supervisor McNamara called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Board Room. Present: Supervisor McNamara, Clerk Wright, Trustee Frazier, Trustee Martin, Trustee Miller, and Trustee White. Absent/Excused: Treasurer Budd. Others in attendance: Secretary Montgomery, Executive Assistant Selman, Public Services Director Best, Executive Assistant Renaud, Water and Sewer Director Taylor, DDA Director Ireland and an audience of two (2).

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF THE AGENDA: Supervisor McNamara outlined the items appearing on the agenda

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA: Miller moved, Frazier seconded to approve the agenda. Motion Carried.

ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA: Wright moved, Miller seconded to approve the Consent Agenda [Approval of the appointment of Denise Partridge to the Water and Sewer Commission with a term to expire June 1, 2021, approval of the re-appointment of Bill Osier to the Construction Code of Appeals Board with a term to expire February 28, 2022, approval of Revisions to the LDFA By-Laws, Work Study Session minutes of September 30, 2019, Closed Session minutes of September 30, 2019, Board Meeting minutes of October 1, 2019, Prepaid List of October 3, 2019, Prepaid List of October 10, 2019, Voucher List of October 15, 2019]. Motion Carried.

C O R R E S P O N D E N C E / ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRESENTATIONS:

Announcements included the following: A Veterans Day Luncheon sponsored by Yankee Air Museum & Regency at Canton will be held at the September Days Senior Center on Thursday, November 7th at noon. All are invited. Please R.S.V.P. to 734-699-8918 by Monday, November 4th. The luncheon cost is \$3.00 per person; Parks and Recreation Department will hold a free Candy Loop on Saturday October 26, 2019 from 4 pm - 6 pm at Quirk Park behind

Township Hall. This event will be held rain or shine and will be moved indoors if necessary. Canned food donations will also be collected during this event, stop by the Belleville Area Museum during the Downtown Belleville Trick or Treat on Wednesday, October 31st from 5-7 p.m., "Coffee with a Cop" will occur on October 19th at Time Hortons, 10360 Belleville Road, from 9 a.m. until 11:00 a.m., the September Day Senior Center will be hosting an informative workshop titled "Let's Talk Dementia and Quality of Life." The last two classes will occur on October 17th and the 24th at 11 a.m. This is a free event and will include refreshments. There is still time to sign up, Join the Belleville Area Museum for a Kids Halloween and Costume Party on Sunday, October 27th from 3 p.m. until 5 p.m. This free event includes games and candy, the Belleville Area Museum will host the Cemetery History Tour Fundraiser featuring Tyler Cemetery on Saturday, October 19th from 3 p.m. until 5 p.m. Cost is \$10 for members and \$15 for non-members, a Special Election for voters in the Van Buren School District will be held November 5, 2019, Precincts 3 and 4 at Township Hall will remain open for voting on Election Day however the Administrative Offices will be closed for regular business, the Clerk's office will be open from 7:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. on Saturday November 2, 2019 for voter registration and absentee voting, if you are interested in receiving a ballot please contact the Clerk's Office for an application. Just a reminder that you no longer need a reason to vote by mail, the Work Study Session scheduled for November 4, 2019 and the Board Meeting of November 5, 2019 have been canceled due to the election, the Township Administrative Offices will be closed on Monday November 11, 2019 in observance of Veterans Day, as of today, the Clerk's office has sent 3,345 applications for absentee ballots, 2,007 ballots have been sent out and 892 ballots have been returned and historically the Clerk's office has a 98% of the ballots sent returned by election day. Presentation of the Coffee with a Cop and Master Plan Workshop videos produced by the newly hired Communication Specialist Ryan

Nichols.

PUBLIC HEARING: None

PUBLIC COMMENT (Unfinished and New Business): None.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Supervisor McNamara read a statement outlining the process utilized in developing the budgets highlighting a reduction in the 2019 amended budget of \$600,000 and planned projects for 2020.

Miller moved, Frazier seconded to adopt Resolution 2019-13 the 2020 Salary Wage Scale and Resolution 2019-22 the 2019 Amended and 2020 Proposed General Fund Budget with the amendment of moving line item the REAL wages 101-101-706-000 and REAL expenses 101-101-956-000 to the Supervisors Department for fiscal year 2020 and adding an additional 100 thousand dollars to 2020 firefighter wages on call 101-336-706-000 to total 744252. Roll Call Vote: Yea: McNamara, Wright, Frazier, Martin and Miller. Nay: White. Absent/Excused: Budd. Trustee White expressed displeasure with salary employee raises beyond the 2% and the overall 2020 General Fund budget as excessive spending. Motion Carried.

Martin moved, Wright seconded to adopt Resolution 2019-25 The 2019 Amended and 2020 Proposed Special Revenues Budget. Motion Carried.

Miller moved, Martin seconded to adopt Resolution 2019-24 the 2019 Amended and 2020 Proposed Water and Sewer Budget. Motion Carried. Five percent water/sewer rate increase in 2020.

Miller moved, Martin seconded to approve the purchase of five DIRT (Do It Right This Time) Walls from Elevate Interior Construction for the total amount of \$47,816.00 with four to be expensed from Cable Capital Outlay (Account #101-715-970-000) and the Assessing non-tech wall to be paid with Building & Grounds Capital Outlay (Account #101-265-970-000). The video technology walls will be placed throughout the Township. Motion Carried.

Miller moved, Wright seconded to approve the purchase from American Interiors to complete

the Main Office furniture renovation to include miscellaneous furniture items including new board room audience chairs, furniture for Public Safety, and benches for the main hallway at the cost of \$168,792.27. Motion Carried.

Frazier moved, Wright seconded to approve Lawrence M. Clarke, Inc. in the amount of \$139,293.00 with a 10% contingency to be used at the direction and discretion of the Water & Sewer Director to address changes and unforeseen conditions that may arise in the construction of the Belleville Square Water Main Loop Project. Motion Carried.

Wright moved, Martin seconded to approve the second (final) reading of Ordinance 10-01-19 to modify the requirements of the Zoning Ordinance with regards to required setbacks for non-conforming single family residential zoned parcels with lake frontage. Roll call vote: Yeas: McNamara, Wright, Frazier, Martin, Miller and White. Absent/Excused: Budd. Motion Carried.

REPORTS: None.

PUBLIC COMMENT NON-AGENDA ITEMS: Monday November 4th is the opening day of registration for Goodfellows Christmas assistance and registration runs through December 6th. You must be a Van Buren Township or City of Belleville resident to apply. Must show proof of residence with a driver's license or current utility bill at time of registration. Registration forms are available at the Van Buren Township Police Department and on the Township website www.vanburen-mi.org. If you have questions please call Goodfellows Coordinator Pam Fleming at 734-260-4150

BOARD COMMENT NON-AGENDA ITEMS: The Belleville Area Council for the Arts is accepting art work until October 18th for the community art show that will take place at the Belleville Yacht Club November 1st, 2nd and 3rd.

ADJOURNMENT: Miller moved, Frazier seconded to adjourn at 7:36 p.m. Motion Carried.

Leon Wright, Township Clerk
Kevin McNamara, Supervisor
Published: October 24, 2019

Things to do in the Belleville area...

- **Friday, Oct. 25** – Karaoke, 9-midnight, at Van Buren Eagles, 9961 Beck Rd. Open to public.
- **Saturday, Oct. 26** – Volunteer to help place American flags on the graves of all veterans who are buried at Hillside Cemetery on Denton Road. Work starts at 8:30 a.m., but volunteers often get there early to get a good start. Each cemetery section takes about one hour of work. Get the cemetery ready for Veterans Day, Nov. 11.
- **Saturday, Oct. 26** – Casino Day trip to the Firekeepers Casino from 9 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., \$35 per person, which includes \$20 credit for premium play, \$5 food voucher, snacks and 50/50 raffle. Board the bus at 8:45 a.m. and bus departs at 9 a.m. sharp from 22971 Martinsville Rd., Belleville. Reserve a seat by calling Christy Darty at (734) 217-9309. Sponsored by Sumpter Progressive Civic League.
- **Saturday, Oct. 26** – A Tree Grows in Belleville. Learn how to grow fruit trees and take a piece of Fred C. Fischer Library

history home with you. Dawn Hughes, certified arborist and owner of Urban Arbor Care, will lead participants through two different methods of tree propagation using the library's own beloved crab apple. A Clone is Born I will begin at 10 a.m. in the Belleville Library Program Room. A Clone is Born II will be at 10 a.m. Nov. 23. Must register. Call (734) 699-3291.

• **Saturday, Oct. 26** – Van Buren Township Downtown Development Authority presents the annual Parks & Rec Candy Loop from 4 to 6 p.m. in Quirk Park, 46425 Tyler Rd., on the small walking track near the pavilion. Rain or shine. For inclement weather, will be moved inside township hall. Free, family-friendly event. Live DJ will spin eerie Halloween music.

• **Saturday, Oct. 26** – Fall Festival at Belleville Free Will Baptist Church, 750 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville, 5-7 p.m. Free fun, food, games, candy.

• **Sunday, Oct. 27** – Free Sunday Music from 2-5 p.m. at September Days Senior Center, 46425 Tyler Rd., Van Buren Township. Today the music is by Jay/Sax.

• **Sunday, Oct. 27** – Kids' Halloween Costume Party, 3-5 p.m. at the Belleville Area Museum. Free event includes games and candy.

• **Monday, Oct. 28** – State Rep. Joe Bellino invites his constituents to discuss state issues with him at his coffee hours from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. at Tim Hortons, 404 S. Monroe St., Monroe, and from 3 to 4 p.m. at Biggby Coffee, 26614 Telegraph Rd. in Flat Rock. Rep. Bellino represents Sumpter Township, as well as other communities. Call Bellino's office at (517) 373-1530 or write to JosephBellino@house.mi.gov.

• **Thursday, Oct. 31** – Halloween Trick or Treating in downtown Belleville, 5-7 p.m. Costume contests and treats at the Fourth Street Square. Sponsored by Belleville Central Business Community.

• **Thursday, Oct. 31** – Trunk or Treat, 6:30 to 8 p.m. at Bethany Bible Church parking lot, 810 E. Huron River Dr., Belleville. Free cider & donuts. www.bethanybiblechurch.com

• **Friday, Nov. 1; Saturday, Nov. 2; Sunday, Nov. 3** -- 10th-Annual Community Art Show put on by the Belleville Area Council for the Arts, hosted by the Belleville Yacht Club, 831 E. Huron River Dr. On Friday, hours are 7-9 p.m.; Saturday, 11 a.m.-6 p.m.; and Sunday, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

• **Saturday, Nov. 2** – Coffee with a Van Buren Cop is from 9 to 11 a.m. at Starbucks on Belleville Road. Get to know township

police officers over a cup of coffee.

• **Sunday, Nov. 3** – Free Sunday Music from 2-5 p.m. at September Days Senior Center, 46425 Tyler Rd., Van Buren Township. Today the music is by Albert Music.

• **Sunday, Nov. 3** – Bugles Across America at 7:15 p.m. at the Veterans Memorial in Horizon Park in Belleville. A brief ceremony honors those with past and present military service. The playing of "Taps" is always a part of the ceremony.

• **Saturday, Nov. 9** – Spaghetti Dinner to benefit Fisher House Michigan from 4:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Belleville Moose Lodge #934, 45476 Harris Rd., Belleville. Active duty military and veterans eat for free. Adults \$10; kids \$5. Red, white & blue Quilt Auction, 50/50 raffle. Information: Kathie Steigerwald, (313) 570-6115 or Kathie19295@gmail.com

• **Sunday, Nov. 10** – Free Sunday Music from 2-5 p.m. at September Days Senior Center, 46425 Tyler Rd., Van Buren Township. Today the music is by 18 Strings.

• **Sunday, Nov. 17** – Free Sunday Music from 2-5 p.m. at September Days Senior Center, 46425 Tyler Rd., Van Buren Township. Today the music is by Jay/Sax.

Charter Township of Van Buren Public Notice

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN-VAN BUREN SCHOOL DISTRICT NOTICE OF SPECIAL ELECTION-NOVEMBER 5, 2019

In accordance with Michigan Election Law, Act 116 of 1954 Section 168.653 (a), notice is hereby given to the registered voters of the Charter Township of Van Buren-Van Buren School District that a Special Election will be held **TUESDAY, November 5, 2019.**

Polls are open 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. EST. Polling place locations for Van Buren Township:

Precinct #1	McBride Middle School	47097 McBride
Precinct #2	Wayne County Community College	9555 Haggerty Rd.
Precinct #3	Van Buren Township Hall (Board Room)	46425 Tyler Rd.
Precinct #4	Van Buren Township Hall (Gym)	46425 Tyler Rd.
Precinct #5	Tyler Elementary School	42299 Tyler Rd.
Precinct #6	Belleville High	501 W. Columbia
Precinct #7	Belleville High	501 W. Columbia
Precinct #8	Haggerty Elementary School	13770 Haggerty Rd
Precinct #9	Savage Elementary School	42975 Savage Rd
Precinct #10	Owen Intermediate School	45201 Owen St.

All polling place are handicap accessible. To obtain election instructions in an alternative format (audio or Braille), contact the Clerk's Office prior to Election Day.

VAN BUREN PUBLIC SCHOOLS BONDING PROPOSAL to borrow the sum of not to exceed \$35,490,000 (Thirty Five Million Four Hundred Ninety Thousand Dollars) and issue its general obligation unlimited tax bonds for the purpose of erecting, furnishing, and equipping a new early childhood center; remodeling, furnishing and refurbishing, and equipping and re-equipping existing school buildings; acquiring and installing instructional technology in school buildings; and preparing, developing, improving, and equipping playgrounds, athletic fields, and sites?

Full text of the ballot proposition may be obtained at the Van Buren Township Clerk's office located at 46425 Tyler Rd, Van Buren Township, Michigan 48111, by contacting the Clerk's office at 734-699-8909 or by visiting the Township website at www.vanburen-mi.org where a sample of the ballot may be viewed.

To comply with the Help America Vote Act (HAVA), voting instructions will be available in audio format and in Braille. Arrangements for obtaining the instructions in these alternative formats' ca be made by contacting the Township Clerk in advance of the election. All polling locations are accessible for voters with disabilities.

Publish: 10-24-2019
Posted: 10-18-2019

Court watching

(continued from page 17)

Belleville on Aug. 21. Magistrate Lisa Martin bound her over to circuit court for an Oct. 23 arraignment on the information. She is lodged on bond of \$20,000/10%.

Jonathan Sander Freed

Jonathan Sander Freed, 47, of Detroit, waived his preliminary exam on a charge of possession of narcotics or cocaine less than 25 grams in VBT on Aug. 2. Magistrate Martin bound him over to circuit court for an Oct. 30 arraignment on the information. He is free on personal recognizance bond of \$5,000.

Tyler Bailey Hancock

Tyler Bailey Hancock, 22, of Belleville, is scheduled for an Oct. 30 preliminary exam in front of 34th District Court Judge Brian A. Oakley. He is lodged in the Wayne County Jail on bond of \$100,000/10% on four charges out of the City of Belleville and additional bond of \$10,000/10% on two charges out of Sumpter Township.

The Belleville charges are dated Sept. 18 and are two counts of false report or threat of terrorism and two counts of using a computer to commit a crime, with a penalty of 20 years or life. Reportedly he threatened to harm a female police officer and to shoot up the high school.

The Sumpter Township charges are dated Sept. 27 and are a false report or threat of terrorism and one count of using a computer to commit a crime, with a penalty of 20 years or life.

Sumpter police reported the joint investigation with Belleville was the result of several recent threats of violence made against both police departments and the Van Buren Public Schools through fake social media and email accounts allegedly created by Hancock.

Van Buren Township
Police Dispatch Log

Out of the 551 dispatch calls for service reported by Van Buren Township police for these past seven days, the following are selected for this column.

Sunday, Oct. 13:
0008 – suspicious person/vehicle, Springwood Blvd./Tyler Rd.
0335 – noise complaint, Maple Dr.
0652 – fraud, Denton Rd.
1231 – shooting, Bemis Rd.
1241 – animal complaint, Rose Blvd.
1245 – animal complaint, Belmont Dr.
1323 – animal complaint, Fairfield Dr.
1421 – trespassing, Belleville Rd.
1457 – larceny, Belleville Rd.
1543 – animal complaint, Denton Rd.
1701 – disorderly, Quirk Rd.
1726 – disorderly, Hull Rd.
1838 – threat, Sawgrass Ct.
1948 – suspicious person/vehicle, Patriot Ln.
2029 – disorderly, Village Green Ln.
2124 – domestic, Village Green Ln.
2152 – suspicious person/vehicle, W. Huron River Dr. / Hoeft Rd.
2239 – family trouble, Buchanan St.
2240 – suspicious person/vehicle, Parkwood Dr.
Monday, Oct. 14:
0301 – harassment call, Martz Rd.
0445 – larceny from auto, Denton Rd.
0844 – private property/property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1219 – suspicious person/vehicle, Sunrise Ln.
1221 – private property impound, Harbour Club Golf Course
1227 – property damage accident, Hannan/Tyler
1328 – property damage accident, Michigan Ave. / Winchester St.
1402 – property damage accident, Belleville
1442 – malicious destruction of property, Quirk Rd
1546 – larceny, Parkwood Dr.
1804 – larceny, McBride
1917 – private property impound, Michigan Ave.
2025 – property damage accident, Rawsonville Rd. / Bog Rd.
2049 – shooting, Hamilton St.
2131 – 911 welfare check, W. Walden Dr.
2240 – assist other dept., Kouza Ct.
2242 – traffic offense, Belleville Rd.
2252 – road hazard, Haggerty Rd./E. Huron River

Tuesday, Oct. 15:
0015 – suspicious person/vehicle, Liberty Ln. / America
0506 – disorderly, Rawsonville
0859 – larceny, Village Green Ln.
1118 – fraud, Congress St.
1212 – assist other dept., Belleville Rd.
1212 – suspicious person/vehicle, S. I-94 Service
1306 – breaking & entering, Water’s Edge Ln.
1358 – abandoned auto, Denton Rd.
1518 – assist other dept., W. Adams
1615 – found property/child, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1801 – suicidal person, Van Buren St.
1818 – shooting, Lighthouse Dr.
1823 – breaking & entering, Linda Vista Ct.
2023 – domestic, Belleville Rd.
2132 – family trouble, Greenbriar Dr.
2228 – suspicious person/vehicle, Lighthouse Dr.

Wednesday, Oct. 16:
0254 – assault & battery, E. Schooner Dr.
0722 – personal injury accident, Belleville
0847 – disorderly, Ecorse Rd.
1044 – suspicious person/vehicle, Independence
1046 – threat, Jeanette
1107 – malicious destruction of property, E. I-94/Rawsonville I-94 ramp E
1203 – road hazard, Hannan Rd./Van Born Rd.
1236 – suspicious person/vehicle, Rawsonville Rd.
1416 – abandoned auto, Denton Rd.
1515 – threat, Belleville Rd.
1548 – missing person, Robson Rd.
1750 – suspicious person/vehicle, Woodbury Dr.
1921 – threat, Lighthouse Dr.
2030 – larceny, Rawsonville Rd.
2042 – suspicious person/vehicle, Alden Ave.
2212 – domestic, S. Ponderosa Trl.
2248 – road hazard, Haggerty Rd./E. Huron River
Thursday, Oct. 17:
0243 – suspicious person/vehicle, Haggerty Rd.
0710 – domestic, Maple Dr.

0744 – traffic offense, Belleville Rd./Robson Rd.
0752 – traffic offense, N. I-94 Service Dr./Belleville Rd.
0831 – property damage accident, Hannan Rd./S. I-94 Service Dr.
0919 – abandoned auto, Fairbanks St.
0943 – breaking & entering, Belleville Rd.
1130 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
1140 – larceny, Briarcliff Dr.
1209 – suspicious person/vehicle, Tyler Rd. / Walden Blvd.
1216 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
1245 – private property impound, Denton Rd.
1447 – mental subject, Belleville Rd.
1601 – road hazard, Van Born
1707 – property damage accident, Hannan Rd. / S. I-94 Service Dr.
1814 – disorderly, Belleville Rd.
2016 – suspicious person/vehicle, Belleville Rd.
2121 – noise complaint, Sugarbush
2141 – harassment call, Denton Rd.
2256 – fraud, Ecorse Rd.

Friday, Oct. 18:
0528 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd.
0739 – larceny, Haggerty Rd.
0850 – larceny, Oak Ln.
0914 – suspicious person/vehicle, Marina Cv. / Denton Rd.
0930 – animal complaint, Parkwood Dr.
1047 – threat, Quirk Rd.
1237 – 911 welfare check, Harmony Ln.
1306 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / N. I-94 Service Dr.
1339 – property damage accident, W. Huron River Dr. / Rawsonville Rd.
1530 – private property/property damage accident, Haggerty Center
1702 – animal complaint, Tyler Rd./Haggerty Rd.
1727 – fraud, Belleville Rd.
1733 – property damage accident, Michigan Ave. / Denton Rd.
1853 – property damage accident, Belleville Rd. / N. I-94 Service Dr.
2009 – animal complaint, Beckley Rd.
2119 – noise complaint, S. Ponderosa Trl.
2239 – operating while intoxicated, WB I-94 / Belleville Rd.
Saturday, Oct. 19:
0828 – property damage accident, Wabash/Hannan
0931 – 911 welfare check, S. I-94 Service Dr.
1228 – assault & battery, Michigan Ave.
1238 – PPO violation, Outer Dr.
1410 – family trouble, Denton Rd.
1426 – personal injury accident, Hannan Rd. / S. I-94 Service Dr.
1609 – domestic, W. Walden Dr.
1627 – suspicious person/vehicle, Beck Ball Diamonds
1802 – unattended death, Oak Ln.
1817 – juvenile complaint, Parkwood Dr./Tyler
1834 – noise complaint, Madison Dr.
1952 – property damage accident, Michigan Ave. / Denton Rd.
2049 – noise complaint, Denton Rd.
2053 – fraud, Wildflower Ct.
2120 – larceny, Belleville Rd.
2153 – operating while intoxicated, Ecorse Rd. / Haggerty Rd.
Also on this week’s log are 231 traffic stops, 58 of which were on the I-94 and I-275 freeways.

Belleville Police
Dispatch Log

Sunday, Oct. 13:
0521 – assist fire dept., 342 Brain St.
1035 – suspicious person/vehicle, 415 High St.
1141 – intrusion alarm, 250 Henry St.
1153 – civil matter, 6 Main St.
1310 – private property impound, 287 S. Industrial Park Dr.
Monday, Oct. 14:
0733 – suspicious person/vehicle, 458 Main St.
1245 – larceny, 275 W. Columbia Ave.
1539 – threat, 144 Third St.
2341 – assist fire dept., 275 W. Columbia Ave.
Tuesday, Oct. 15:
1106 – intrusion alarm, 883 Sumpter Rd.
1143 – assist fire dept., 201 Third St.
1403 – assist fire dept., 476 W. Columbia Ave.
1614 – traffic offense, Madelon St./Roland St.

1644 – assist fire dept., 6 Santa Clara St.
1803 – suspicious person/vehicle, 955 Sumpter
Wednesday, Oct. 16:
0711 – suspicious person/vehicle, Second St. / Church St.
0901 – larceny, 501 W. Columbia Ave.
1359 – property damage accident, Second St./Main
1447 – miscellaneous complaint, 501 W. Columbia
1844 – threat, 501 W. Columbia Ave.
Thursday, Oct. 17:
0545 – assist fire dept., 374 Main St.
0951 – assist fire dept., 58 Menlo Park Dr.
1027 – suicidal person, 200 bl. Henry St.
1112 – welfare check, 100 bl. South St.
1151 – assist citizen, 485 E. Waterbury Ct.
1442 – property damage accident, 501 W. Columbia Ave.
1655 – missing person, 261 N. Liberty St.
Friday, Oct. 18:
1057 – vehicle lockout, 201 Third St.
1113 – narcotics crime, 501 W. Columbia Ave.
1314 – traffic offense, E. Huron River/Wexford
Saturday, Oct. 19:
1311 – suspicious person/vehicle, 45 W. Columbia
1429 – traffic offense, 140 Carmell St.
1449 – traffic offense, Main/High
1633 – assist other dept., 575 Sumpter Rd.
2059 – traffic offense, 219 Huron River Dr.
2130 – civil matter, 51 Loza Ln.
Also on this week’s log are 32 traffic stops.

Sumpter Township
Police Dispatch Log

Sunday, Oct. 13:
0009 – reckless driver, Bemis/Sumpter
0207 – operating while intoxicated arrest, Willow / Sumpter
0303 – suspicious incident, 44000 bl. Harris Rd.
2052 – animal complaint, Willow/Sumpter
Monday, Oct. 14:
0028 – operating while intoxicated arrest, Sumpter / Judd
0257 – well-being check, Washington St.
0511 – alarm, 17000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
0715 – assault, 51000 bl. Willis Rd.
1045 – larceny, Arizona
1300 – suspicious vehicle, 10000 bl. Rawsonville
1347 – traffic hazard, Elwell/Judd
1754 – alarm, 8100 bl. Rawsonville Rd.
2044 – fire dept. assist, 43000 bl. Harris Rd.
2154 – suspicious incident, 39000 bl. Willow Rd.
Tuesday, Oct. 15:
0756 – citizen assist, 28000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
1043 – property damage accident, 46000 bl. Judd
1218 – property damage accident, Sumpter/Willis
1617 – animal complaint, 22000 bl. Fenster
1653 – reckless driver, Timberlane
1706 – suspicious person, Elwell/Bemis
2152 – abandoned vehicle, Willow/Elwell
2323 – warrant arrest pick up, 19000 bl. Sumpter
Wednesday, Oct. 16:
0024 – well-being check, 24000 bl. Karr Rd.
0717 – juvenile complaint, 43000 bl. Dunn Rd.
1134 – suspicious incident, 51000 bl. Wear Rd.
1135 – citizen assist, 48000 bl. Willis Rd.
1215 – fire dept. assist, 23000 bl. Bohn Rd.
1228 – animal complaint, 44000 bl. Harris Rd.
1301 – civil dispute, 43000 bl. Bemis Rd.
1606 – well-being check, 26000 bl. Elwell Rd.
1802 – 911 hang up, 28000 bl. Elwell Rd.
1928 – property damage accident, 51000 bl. Willis
2209 – animal bite, 45000 bl. Bontekoe
2217 – civil dispute, Virginia
Thursday, Oct. 17:
0142 – warrant arrest pick up, Karr/Willow
0714 – citizen assist, Sumpter/Judd
1018 – alarm, 28000 bl. Sumpter Rd.
1055 – civil dispute, 43000 bl. Bemis Rd.
1625 – alarm, 19000 bl. Elwell Rd.
1626 – death investigation, 50000 bl. Judd Rd.
1724 – family trouble, Oregon
1802 – animal complaint, Carriage Ln.
2016 – 911 hang up, Brookview
Friday, Oct. 18:
0901 – fire dept. assist, 49000 bl. Arkona Rd.
1020 – civil dispute, 46000 bl. Arkona Rd.
1038 – fire dept. assist, 22000 bl. Sherwood Rd.
1956 – reckless driver, 51000 bl. Willis Rd.
1357 – civil dispute, 28000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
1512 – well-being check, 45000 bl. Judd Rd.

1604 – fire dept. assist, 44000 bl. Arkona Rd.
1800 – juvenile complaint, 45000 bl. Victoria
1926 – fire dept. assist, 48000 bl. Sully Dr.
2004 – death investigation, Knollwood
Saturday, Oct. 19:
0245 – shots fired, 23000 bl. Martinsville Rd.
0644 – civil dispute, Edgewood Dr.
0736 – assault, Edgewood Dr.
1058 – fire dept. assist, 10000 bl. Rawsonville
1207 – fire dept. assist, 46000 bl. Arkona Rd.
1234 – fire dept. assist, 17000 bl. Lohr Rd.
1447 – juvenile complaint, Brookview
1501 – civil dispute, 22000 bl. Bohn Rd.
1624 – civil dispute, 47000 bl. Wear Rd.
1721 – civil dispute, 24000 bl. Bohn Rd.
1948 – suspicious vehicle, Arkona/Sherwood
2244 – parking complaint, 8200 bl. Rawsonville
2307 – property damage accident, Carleton West / Willow
2316 – property damage accident, Willow/Clark
2348 – fire dept. assist, 22000 bl. Bohn Rd.
Also on this week’s log are six follow-up investigations, 22 miscellaneous details, 39 patrol checks, and 60 traffic stops.

Halloween events set
in Van Buren, Sumpter,
City of Belleville

Van Buren Township’s annual Candy Loop to celebrate Halloween will run from 4 to 6 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 26, at Quirk Park behind the township hall at 46425 Tyler Rd.

Enjoy spooky family fun and sweet treats. A DJ will spin eerie Halloween music as participants visit various candy stops along the Quirk Park track at this free community event.

Also, on Saturday, Oct. 26, the Yankee Air Museum is inviting everyone to its free Halloween Party from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the museum located at 47884 D St. on the east side of Willow Run Airport. Come as you are or in costume. There will be face painting, live animals, hands-on fun with science, trick or treating and a candy drop from a helicopter around 1 p.m., weather permitting.

On Halloween, Thursday, Oct. 31, it’s trick or treating in downtown Belleville from 5 to 7 p.m., with a costume contest and special treats on the Fourth Street Square. The event is sponsored by Belleville Central Business Community.

Also, on Oct. 31, in Sumpter Township, the annual Halloween Trunk or Treat event at the fire hall at Sumpter and Kozma roads runs from 6 to 9 p.m. Candy, food, fun, courtesy of the fire fighters and volunteers.

BHS at-home games

• **Thursday, Oct. 24:** Freshman Football vs KLAA Crossover, 4:30 p.m.; JV Football vs KLAA Crossover, 6:30 p.m.; Girls Swim & Dive vs Fordson HS, 6:30 p.m.

Go Tigers!
Diane Kiessel
BHS Athletic Secretary

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Independent photo by Rosemary K. Otzman
 Among those attending the Oct. 12 annual pancake breakfast at the Van Buren Township Fire Station #2 were, from left, Bronson Campbell, Aaron Ladach, Sparky, Elizabeth McCormick, and Daniel Walter.

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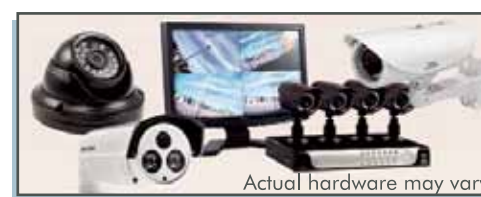
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BOOMING WITH ROOM



48024 BEMIS, VAN BUREN TWP
ORIGINAL OWNER 2,500 Square Foot Brick Colonial Offering 4 Bedrooms, 2 Baths, Hardwood Floors Everywhere, Large Family Room with Fireplace, Basement, Huge Fenced Yard, 2 1/2 Car Garage. \$242,900

OPEN HOUSE SUNDAY 1-3 OCTOBER 27TH



8908 IRONWOOD VAN BUREN TWP
CAREFREE LIVING in this Beautiful 2 bedroom 2.5 bath condo Featuring Gas Fireplace, Dining area with Patio Walkout. Finished Basement with Full bath. Huge premium Bath. Brick Paver Patio Extra Clean \$155,000

OPEN HOUSE SUNDAY 12-2 OCTOBER 27TH



6950 CHANDLER, VAN BUREN TWP
NEW CONSTRUCTION JUST COMPLETED Beautiful Townsend Park Sub. Spacious 1936 square foot, 4 large bedrooms; 2 1/2 baths, fireplace, Granite countertops, Basement has 10 year waterproof warranty. \$274,900

LIVE THE GOOD LIFE



13713 BASSWOOD, VAN BUREN
ACLEAR STATEMENT OF CLASS. Outstanding Brick 3 Bedroom (First Floor Master) 2 1/2 Bath with Large Open Kitchen With Granite Counter Tops, Family Room with Premium Hardwood Flooring, 3 Car Attached Garage. \$358,900

YES - ANN ARBOR



4401 PARK RD, ANN ARBOR
RARELY OFFERED SCIO TOWNSHIP Brick Farm House Featuring Four Bedrooms, Two Baths, Enclosed Front Porch, Living Room, Dining Room, Attached Garage, Huge Basement on Large 1.4 Acre Parcel Complete with Outbuildings and Large Barn. Just Minutes From Downtown Ann Arbor. \$309,900

4,224 SQUARE FEET



23560 SUMPTER, SUMPTER TWP
RESIDENTIAL OR INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY. Possible Residential, Day Care, Group Home, Apartments or Your Ideas Large front covered porch. Large Covered Patio & fireplace and patio area. Fire System. 1 Large Kitchen, 2 Apartment Kitchens, 5 Bathrooms. 1 Car Detached Garage. A Best Buy at \$225,000

1 ACRE + POLE BARN



17164 RENTON, VAN BUREN TWP
LARGE COUNTRY HOME on more than an Acre. Just minutes from expressways and shopping. Open Floor Plan with Huge Rooms, Wood Flooring, Fireplace, Rear Patio, Fire Pit with 2 1/2 Car Detached Garage PLUS Pole Barn. A Quite and Serene Setting with Mature Trees and the Best of Nature. \$219,900.

PRIME LOCATION



18571 SAVAGE, SUMPTER TWP
ONE BEAUTIFUL YARD With Open Space, A Natural Pesticide Free Garden and Mature Trees. 1,762 Square Foot Updated Colonial featuring 3 Bedrooms, 3 Baths, New Carpet and Paint, Open Kitchen and More. 1 Plus Acres on Paved Street Just Listed and Priced to Sell at \$209,900

FOR SALE OR LEASE



500E HURON RIVER DR, BELLEVILLE
HIGHEST QUALITY BRICK COMMERCIAL BUILDING IN THE CITY OF BELLEVILLE. Former Florist, Bakery and Coffee House. Potential for Franchise Opportunity and Immediate Occupancy. It's QUALITY, POTENTIAL AND DESIGN! For Sale at \$799,000 or Lease at \$5,000. Month Double Net.

RAWSONVILLE 2.6 AC \$95,000
44235 WEAR - TWO 2.6 AC Each \$30,000
25817 SUMPTER 80X529 .97 AC \$20,000
SUMPTER EXETER TWP 8 ACRES \$65,000

VACANT SUMPTER & WILLIS COMM & RESIDENTIAL ZONING 25 ACR \$250,000
JUDD 10 ACRES SUMPTER TWP \$100,000
SAVAGE 1 ACRE SUMPTER TWP \$45,000
MORTON TAYLOR 1.8 ACRES \$30,000
SHERWOOD 37.55 AC BY WEARS \$145,000

WILLIS SUMPTER 1.14 ACRES \$60,000
28710 SUMPTER ROAD \$10,000
VACANT BALL ROMULUS .34 AC \$19,000
GRANT ROMULUS 1.8 ACRES LT IN \$72,000
HAGGERTY 1.5 AC VAN BUREN \$70,000
VACANT LOUISA "DREAM LOT" \$70,000

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MORTON TAYLOR 1.8 ACRES \$30,000
HURON TWP VAC ASH .87 ACRES \$70,000

HURON TWP VAC CLARK .74 ACRES \$65,000
HURON TWP VAC CLARK 1.12 ACRE \$75,000
HURON TWP VAC OTTER 2.94 ACRES \$80,000
HURON TWP VAC BELL 2.48 ACRES \$75,000
HURON TWP VAC BELL 2.48 ACRES \$75,000
HURON TWP VAC ASH .87 ACRES \$70,000

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